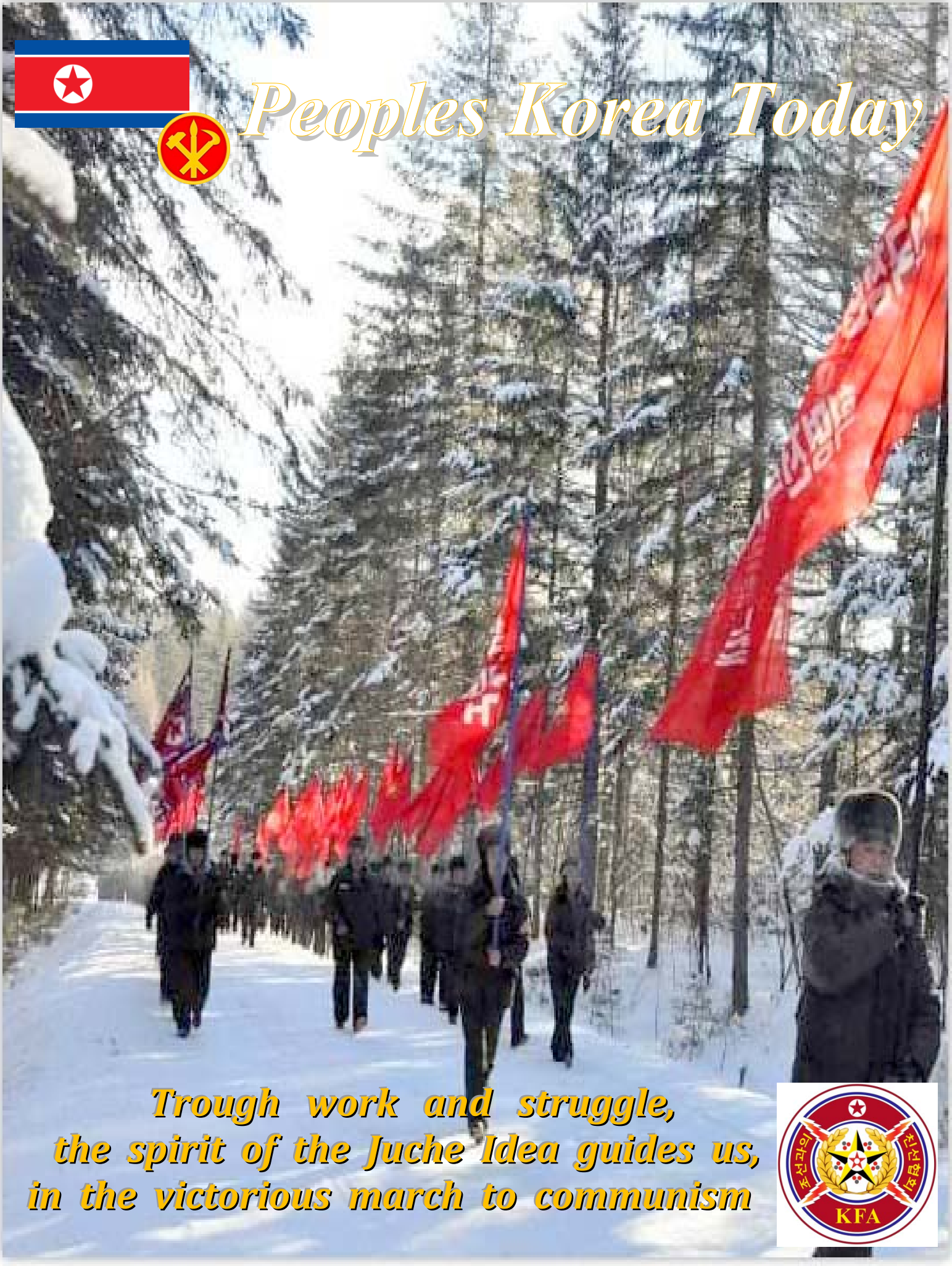

Peoples Korea Today

Trough work and struggle,
the spirit of the Juche Idea guides us,
in the victorious march to communism

피플스 코리아 투데이

Issue 37 (January, 2024)
113 Year Juche

Peoples Korea Today

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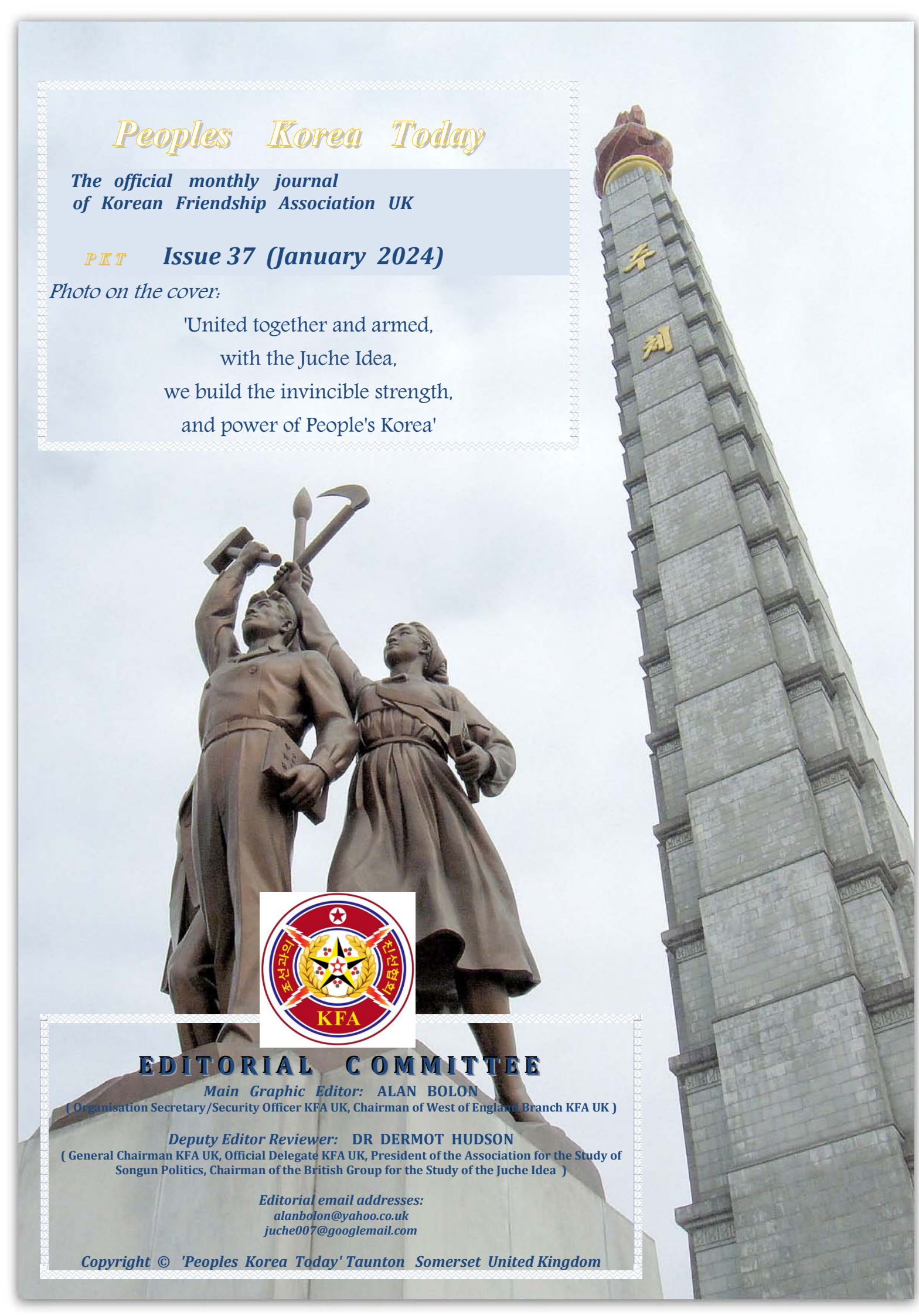
PKT **Issue 37 (January 2024)**

Photo on the cover:

'United together and armed,
with the Juche Idea,
we build the invincible strength,
and power of People's Korea'



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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of the Ministry of National Defence,
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK),
titled: 'The hostile forces' any attempt to use nuke
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which was issued on Sunday 17th of December
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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today issued a joint statement,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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today issued a joint statement,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of comrade Kim Son Kyong,
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of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,
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made on the 10th of December
(ASSPUK, BGSJI, UK KFA, BSCPRKP, pages 36 - 37)

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
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issued a joint statement,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
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The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
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of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK),
Foreign Ministry made on Saturday 2nd of December 2023
(ASSPUK, BGSJI, UK KFA, BSCPRKP, pages 43 - 44)

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of the spokesman,
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9th Plenary Meeting,
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'New Year's Greetings, From the Korean Friendship Association UK Chairman'

Firstly, I would like to wish all Korean Friendship Association UK members and supporters a very Happy New Year 2024, Juche 113! May you enjoy health, happiness and prosperity in the coming year.

The past year has seen many successes for KFA UK such as the successful hosting of the European Regional Forum for Friendship, Solidarity and Exchange with the Korean People in September 2023. We have also held many online meetings as well as our ever - popular KFA UK *'Film Night'* and we have started a regular Q and A session as well. We have also picketed the US embassy, south Korean puppet embassy and the hated British Brainwashing Corporation.

During the past year the DPRK has made spectacular progress; there was the successful launch of the *'Malligyong - 1'* military reconnaissance satellite in November as well the launch of the *'Hwasong - pho 18'* ICBM only a few days ago. The DPRK reaped a bumper harvest. Many residents of rural villages have received

new homes free of charge. In Pyongyang the new Hwasong street appeared. The DPRK celebrated the 70th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the DPRK and also the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Korean People's Army as a regular armed force. All these occasions were marked by military parades or militia parades - the DPRK is the only country in the world to be able to hold 3 military parades within a time frame of 9 months.

However, there are those in the world who do not want to see the progress of the DPRK and will stop at nothing to undermine and eventually destroy the DPRK. The past year has seen numerous US sanctions applied to the DPRK and also many US - south Korean military exercises targeting the DPRK. US president Joe *'Sleepy Joe'* Biden declared it would be *'the end of whatever regime'* in the DPRK. US nuclear assets have been moved into south Korea with a view to staging a nuclear attack on People's Korea.

Worse still the US and its lackeys have continually carried out a massive campaign of disinformation against People's Korea. Now this is where KFA UK comes in. Our job is to defend People's Korea with No Ifs or Buts. In the coming year we will step up our activities but we will need your support to become more effective. We will look to step up activities and look to create new and innovative ways of defending the DPRK. We of course welcome your ideas and suggestions.

So, let's make 2024 / Juche 113 a year when we go forward together to defend People's Korea with No Ifs or Buts and build a stronger and more effective Korean Friendship Association UK.

(Dr Dermot Hudson, Deputy Editor / Reviewer 'PKT',
General Chairman KFA UK)

'New Year Message of Organisation Secretary, of the Korean Friendship Association UK, Comrade Alan Bolon to KFA UK Members, supporters and sympathizers'

At the beginning of the new year, as always, dear members and supporters of Korean Friendship Association UK, we face the balance of the previous year, but also new tasks and new plans for the future.

What was our organization like last year 2024? This question can be answered in many ways. It was certainly not an easy year, because the forces hostile to DPRK tried harder than in previous years, we were attacked from all sides in many areas of activity, of which it is worth emphasizing the total war in the mass media and the constant obstruction of our information work in propagating the truth about DPRK in the media social. These attacks and hostile forces that have caused us many difficulties are confirmation that our organizational policy, our activities and work is right and brings results.

In the course of these trials, our organization first of all hardens and strengthens itself. In this sense, we will be stronger in the new year - Juche 113. We learn and draw conclusions from the experiences of the past and improve and strengthen the forms of our activities. We expanded a new form of our activities and we were heard everywhere and by everyone so can confirm by constantly attacks on us from enemies of Democratic People's Republic of Korea from UK and abroad.

Dear members of KFA UK, sympathizers and supporters, remember that what we do to proclaim the truth and defend it about Democratic People's Republic of Korea, especially here, in the capitalist and imperialist UK, is very important and is a real heroic fight, a fight for the truth and a fight on the right side. We are united in this fight on one side and we will always support you and give you courage and strength so that our mission, the mission of our entire KFA UK organization, is contained in such a simple but clearly powerful call: *'Defend People's Korea with No If's and No But's!'* - was duly and fully completed. And above all, let it be a year of feeling more than before proud and satisfied with what we will do together, for the good name of People's Korea, for the benefit of Korean culture and tradition.

However, it is not that we have been and are being attacked, but our actions and activity should be the first thing we pay attention to. We should focus on participating even more actively in everything that we organize and will organize in the new year at Juche 113. And there will be a lot of it ... Our plans are big, spectacular and soon we will close ranks even stronger in our mission and activities.

From all heartfelt wishes that 2024 Juche 113, we wish you that new year will be a year of fulfillment of your desires, a year of peace and quiet, a year of creative and fruitful work for Korean Friendship Association UK, in the honourable service of defending the truth and promoting the wonderful culture and tradition of DPRK. We wish you there be health and happiness in your families. May it be a year of good memories and we in KFA UK would be happy if we would be the reason of it.

Once again, I warmly greet you and wish you all the best, a happy new year!

(Alan Bolon, Main Graphic Editor 'PKT',
Organisation Secretary/Security Officer KFA UK,
Chairman West of England Branch KFA UK)

'Congratulations to Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN, on his birthday !'

On the 8th of January it will the birthday of respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, the general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea, President of the State Affairs of the DPRK and supreme commander of the revolutionary armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un has been leading the DPRK for the past 12 years and has pushed forward the Songun revolutionary cause and Juche revolutionary cause following in the footsteps of the great generalissimo's Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il. Dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un is holding aloft the red banner of Kimilsungism - Kimjongilism and self - reliance.

Dear respected leader Marshal Kim Jong Un is distinguished by extraordinary energy, stamina, remarkable dynamism as well as profound devotion to the revolutionary cause, deep concern for the lives of the people and fidelity to the Juche revolutionary cause.

Dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un made a most outstanding and significant impact at Kim Il Sung Military University by writing a brilliant thesis on the outstanding military art of the great leader generalissimo Kim Il Sung in the Fatherland Liberation War. Dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un has written many works such as:

'LET US BRILLIANTLY ACCOMPLISH THE REVOLUTIONARY CAUSE OF JUCHE,
HOLDING KIM JONG IL IN HIGH ESTEEM AS THE ETERNAL
GENERAL SECRETARY OF OUR PARTY',

'LET US MARCH FORWARD DYNAMICALLY TOWARDS FINAL VICTORY,
HOLDING HIGHER THE BANNER OF SONGUN',

'THE GREAT KIM IL SUNG IS THE ETERNAL LEADER OF OUR PARTY
AND OUR PEOPLE',

'LET US STEP UP THE BUILDING OF A THRIVING
BY APPLYING KIM JONG IL'S PATRIOTISM',

'LET US HASTEN THE FINAL VICTORY
THROUGH A REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGICAL OFFENSIVE!',

'THE CAUSE OF THE GREAT PARTY OF COMRADES KIM IL SUNG
AND KIM JONG IL IS EVER - VICTORIOUS'

And many other important works. He has both distinguished himself as a foremost theoretician and great thinker. He has systematised the great ideas of the great leader President Kim Il Sung and eternal general secretary Kim Jong Il as great Kimilsungism - Kimjongilism. Dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un has put forward the great self - development first idea, an application of the Juche idea and self - reliance.

During the past year we have seen truly massive achievements for the DPR under the leadership of respected Marshal Kim Jong Un; on the 21st of November 2023 the *'Malligyong -1'* military reconnaissance satellite, the first of many, was successfully launched and recently there was the successful test fire of the *'Hwasong - pho 18'* ICBM. The singlehearted unity of the DPRK was demonstrated by the successful celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Korean People's Army as a regular revolutionary armed force, the 70th anniversary of victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War against the US imperialists and the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the DPRK.

We are firmly convinced that under the leadership of the dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un victory and glory await the DPRK. Therefore, we extend our hearty congratulations to the dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, the supreme leader of People's Korea and great guide of Juche - based socialist construction.

Congratulations to respected Marshal Kim Jong Un on his birthday!

(Dr Dermot Hudson, Deputy Editor / Reviewer 'PKT',
General Chairman KFA UK)

'House of Lords Aims at Regime change in People's Korea !'

On the 14th of December the unelected House of Lords (note that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea does not have an unelected body but instead an elected Supreme People's Assembly which represents the workers, peasants, intellectuals and soldiers) held a debate titled: *'Current Threat posed by North Korea'*. Members of the House of Lords receive £332 per day plus expenses to just sit down and talk all day. In this particular case to slander the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We have an absurd and archaic spectacle of an unelected body which is an anachronism in the present day and age, calling an advanced socialist country a *'dictatorship'* and accusing it of *'human rights violations'*.

The so - called *'debate'* was wrong from the very start because the House of Lords failed to use the correct title of the country; the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), popularly known as People's Korea or Socialist Korea or Juche Korea. Moreover the House of Lords has no right to comment on the internal affairs of the DPRK as it was very clear from reading the report of the hearing that rather than discussing the external policy of the DPRK in fact a lot of time was spent discussing what are internal matters for the DPRK and strictly related to the sovereignty of the DPRK. Not far from the House of Lords there are homeless people sleeping rough on the streets but instead of choosing how to solve the issues of homelessness and poverty in the UK, their lordships and ladyships choose to have a debate about a faraway country of which they are profoundly ignorant of.

During the so - called *'debate'* words like Juche and Songun were not mentioned even once ! How can anyone understand the DPRK without referring to the Juche idea ? It is the height of deplorable ignorance, philistinism and chauvinism that people discuss the DPRK without any real knowledge of the subject.

The House of Lords did not invite the DPRK Embassy in London to address the hearing nor did it invite the Korean Friendship Association of the UK (KFA) to address the debate. The House of Lords did not bother to ask for evidence from KFA UK or cite any of any materials. The whole debate was completely one - sided and unfair and dominated by anti - DPRK reactionaries such as Lord Alton of Liverpool. Lord Alton has been on trips to south Korea paid for by the south Korean puppet authorities as well as various NGOs. The House of Lords Register of Members Interests also reveals that Alton received free theatre tickets from an entity related to the anti - communist Falun Gong cult.

No one sympathetic to the DPRK was allowed to address the debate which was a theatre of anti - DPRK bashing, slander and calumny by the Tories, Liberal Dems, *'Independents'*, Labour and Greens, all of which equally anti - DPRK and have identical policies when it comes to the DPRK. Supposedly we live in a multi - party system but the recent House of Lords debate shows that what are supposedly opposed parties have identical policies.

The hearing was opened by Lord Hugo Swire, a Conservative. Lord Swire is related to the capitalist monopoly Swire group which has massive business interests in East Asia. Whilst Swire was the Conservative MP for East Devon the *'Sunday Mirror'* reported he had claimed £3,198.61 for oil and gas in the year to March - the eighth - highest amount for any MP in 2013.

Lord Swire claimed that the DPRK is part of a *'unhealthy, unwelcome and, frankly, dangerous anti - Western axis'*. The DPRK has an anti - imperialist and independent foreign policy which opposes domination and interference by the US and other imperialist countries such as the UK. As the DPRK was invaded by US imperialism and its vassal states and has been subjected to 70 plus years of sanctions by the imperialists it is only natural that the DPRK should take an *'anti - Western'* position. It is a good thing that the DPRK stands against US imperialism ! Swire claimed that the DPRK *'expelled the British embassy from Pyongyang'*. This is simply not true, it is nonsense. It was Britain that withdrew the embassy from Pyongyang, the DPRK did not break diplomatic relations with the UK and did not expel the British embassy.

Both Lord Swire and Lord Alton banged on about the usual rubbish about *'mass starvation'* and *'prison camps'*, making false accusations about the human rights situation in the DPRK. Statistics from the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) which is not a friend of the DPRK show that the rice consumption per capita in the DPRK is 99 kg per year, and it is actually higher than that of south Korea. This approximates to 271g of rice per day which would provide 3 very generous meals of rice per day.

In actual fact statistics from inside the DPRK show that citizens are supplied with 300g of rice per day along with tofu, eggs, and beer. During the years of the *'arduous march'*, the DPRK's population increased rather than decreased proving that the stories of *'famine'* and *'mass starvation'* were not true.

As to the so - called *'human rights problem'*. Such a thing does not exist in the DPRK. People enjoy the right to housing, to education, to free medical care, to work and even have holidays paid for by state expense. Visiting the DPRK many times, I did not see *'forced labour camps'* and *'concentration camps'* that the imperialists allege exist in the DPRK ? I could not see such a thing in fact I didn't even see one barbed wire fence in the countryside nor large numbers of police or security personnel. It also should be mentioned that the DPRK countryside was free from crop failure, famine.

There is also a good level of social equality in the DPRK countryside with no big houses, no big private landed estates (or latifundia) , no rich farmers or landlords, a genuine people's countryside.

The so - called *'information'* that the House of Lords based its debate on is just lies and falsehoods created by the south Korean puppets, by the US Central Intelligence Agency and by those who betrayed the DPRK for money.

The House of Lords *'debate'* on the DPRK was an exercise in chauvinism, imperialism and colonialism.

Lastly, the House of Lords called for the DPRK Supreme leadership to be referred to the International Criminal Court, such a demand is both a grave infringement on the DPRK's sovereignty as well as a call for the overthrow of the socialist system in the DPRK. The so - called *'debate'* in the House of Lords was really aimed at *'regime change'* in the DPRK, to restore the capitalist system in the DPRK and make the northern part of Korea a colony of US imperialism, of the big transnationals and banks and of the IMF, WTO and World Economic Forum.

We need to build up more solidarity with People's Korea to defend it from regime change attempts from the likes of the House of Lords.

(Dr Dermot Hudson, Deputy Editor / Reviewer 'PKT',
General Chairman KFA UK)

'65th Anniversary of the foundation, of the Worker - Peasant Red Guard'

65 years ago, on the 14th of January 1959 that the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung founded the Worker - Peasant Red Guards, a self - defensive volunteer militia force. The Worker - Peasant Red Guards inherited the tradition of the anti - Japanese armed struggle. It is an embodiment of the idea of the all - people in - depth defence system. The WPRG are organised at factories, industrial enterprises,

farms and localities. The WPRG is the militant armed force of the people's democratic dictatorship and basically armed proletarians.

The working people of the DPRK are very aware of the truth that they themselves should defend their Republic, the cradle of happiness and Juche paradise, with arms in their hands, the Korean people grasped the idea of arms and Juche - oriented method of war of the Workers' Party of Korea and trained themselves to acquire marksmanship of never missing the target, though they found their days so full with production and construction, holding aloft the militant slogan *'Rifle in one hand and hammer or sickle in the other!'*.

Throughout its history, the Worker-Peasant Red Guards have smashed at every step the US imperialists reckless moves to unleash a new war and laid a solid foundation for the building of a prosperous and powerful nation in the flames of creation and innovation in revolutionary soldier spirit, standing side by side with the People's Army for the defence of independence and socialism.

The great leader generalissimo Kim Il Sung and the great leader generalissimo Kim Jong Il paid great attention to building up the Worker - Peasant Red Guard into a powerful revolutionary militia force. Now the people's defence forces of Korea are giving fuller scope to the might of the DPRK as a military power. The Worker - Peasant Red Guard of the DPRK is a fine example of an anti - imperialist popular militia force and a revolutionary proletarian fighting force which is an inspiration to the revolutionary peoples of the world.

In September 2023 there was a parade of the Worker - Peasant Red Guard to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Today the Worker - Peasant Red Guards, under the command of respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, an ever - victorious iron - willed brilliant commander, stand ready to defend their homes and workplaces from US imperialist attack thereby contributing to peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

We salute the heroic men and women of the Worker - Peasant Red Guard of the DPRK!

(Korean Friendship Association UK)

'The Heart of the Korean Friendship Association'

The number of members in the Korean Friendship Association has grown exponentially in more than 34 countries since it was founded back in 2000 by Alejandro Cao de Benos.

We continue to defend People's Korea and dismantle the misinformation rampaging across the world. The imperialist and fascist governments behind these lies won't stop attempting to boycott our efforts to say the truth about the DPRK. Therefore, organization is key.

Our rising numbers show our evergrowing strength, but consolidating this strength is just as important, as we need to stay coordinated and informed between members in order to stay true to our mission.

Our primary task as members is to defend People's Korea with no Ifs or Buts. Thanks to the monthly meetings of the KFA UK, organised by chairman Dr Dermot Hudson, the participating members get to discuss recent news and share their opinions. There's also my personal favourite event organised by Dr Hudson, which is the Korean Film Night. During these evenings, we gather through Skype to watch a streamed Korean film subtitled in English, and we talk about it afterwards. Sometimes we get to watch a short documentary before ending the night.

The participation includes members from KFA UK, KFA Germany, KFA Turkey, KFA Poland and KFA Spain, but everyone willing to spend a great time can join us too! The more we are, the better.

Speaking about the way we work in KFA Spain, we have WhatsApp and Telegram groups for our members, where news and comments are shared. We also have a Juche Idea study group where we try to meet through Zoom every two weeks to study certain books from the Great Leaders, explain each part, share our thoughts and maybe tell our own experiences related to the subject. We have a translator in the study group who writes down the main points in the chat for those non-Spanish speakers who wish to join us.

KFA Spain tries to both take a serious, committed and disciplined approach to KFA work, but at the same time enjoy and have fun ourselves. This reminds me of the recent KFA International Meeting held in Barcelona the past 25th of November. We held a very well organised meeting, listening with respect to the DPRK anthem, making introductions, reading the speeches of all the KFA delegations, answering any doubts and questions regarding the DPRK, and discussing the next meeting. It's always an enriching experience for all the attendants.

Now, what happens after is just as recommendable as the meeting itself. We go to have lunch together, do tourism, chill out around the city and, for the brave ones, party at night. The day after there's always a proper tour around the city, so everyone gets to learn a bit of History of the place. We end up wishing for the next meeting to take place as soon as possible! And the best part is that any KFA delegation is capable of seamlessly blending compromise and fun in their own countries, most definately KFA UK with their British enthusiasm, which is well known of here in Spain.

The KFA is not only a point of union for those who defend People's Korea, but also a chance to connect and befriend other members. Outside the official meetings, we continue meeting as friends, like my recent travel for leisure to Madrid, were some of us met to spend the weekend together.

Both KFA UK and KFA Spain have much to learn the one from the other. On the one hand, KFA Spain should consider doing Korean film nights subtitled to Spain for non - English speakers, or do monthly Skype meetings to share news and thoughts. On the other hand, KFA UK could arrange more on - site meetings so the members get to know each other in a more informal environment.

Overall, I think the work of both delegations is on the right path and we must keep improving and never settle with what we've got. I hope one day we get to share our experiences on a regular basis with the other delegations worldwide and get to as many people as possible outside the KFA.

(Paula Arzola, Korean Friendship Association Zone Delegate for Andalusia, Spain & Spanish Correspondent of the 'PKT')

'On the 3rd Anniversary of Marshal KIM JONG UN's election, as General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea'

Three years have now passed since the historic 8th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea elected respected Marshal KIM JONG UN as General Secretary of the WPK. the supreme general staff of the Korean revolution and the guiding force of the Korean people. The election of respected Marshal KIM JONG UN as general secretary of the WPK reflected the unanimous will and desire of all members of the WPK and the entire Korean people to have him as the head of the Party and the Korean people. It was a great manifestation of the single - hearted unity of the Korean people around the Party and leader as well as at the same time a reflection of the great trust and faith of the Korean people in respected Marshal KIM JONG UN as the supreme leader of the Korean revolution.

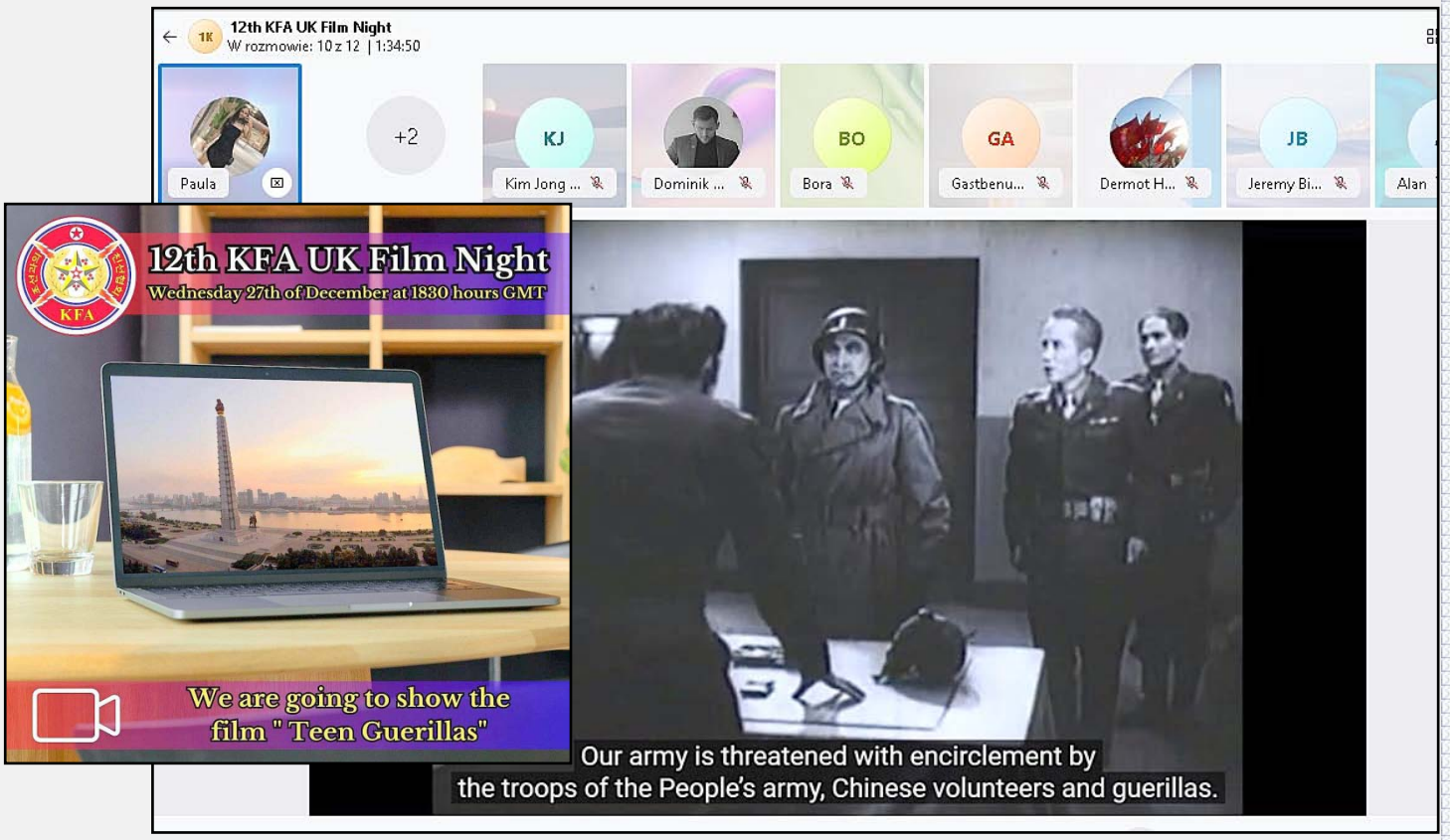
During the past two years general secretary respected comrade KIM JONG UN has led the Korean people along the straight road of Kimilsungism - Kimjongilism, the great and true road of Juche. Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN has worked hard to implement the decisions of the 8th Congress of the WPK. He has led the struggle for socialist construction and initiated many projects. He has worked to continuously improve the living standards of the Korean people. Moreover, he has organised responsible work to resolutely smash anti - socialist and non - socialist behaviours. Also, respected Marshal KIM JONG UN wisely led the work of building up national defence; great successes were achieved such as the launch of the new type of ICBM *'Hwasong - pho 18'* and the *'Malligyong -1'* spy satellite.

We are convinced that with respected Marshal KIM JONG UN at the helm of the Party, new and greater victories will be achieved. We are sure that greater successes will be made in implementing the decisions of the 8th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea !

Glory to General Secretary respected Marshal KIM JONG UN!

(Korean Friendship Association UK)

Report of 12th Korean Friendship Association UK, film night 27th of December 2023



The Korean Friendship Association of the UK held its 12th film night, the final one of the year on the 27th of December via Skype at 1830 hours GMT. It was held with assistance from KFA Andalusia, Spain and participating were members of KFA UK (from London and the West of England) as well as KFA Spain, KFA Germany, the People's Korea Initiative of Poland, and friends from Turkey and Serbia.

The film *'Teen Guerrillas / Boy Partisans'* was set during the period of the strategic retreat during the Fatherland Liberation War. Depicted are the brutal atrocities of the US imperialists and their collaborators in the so - called: *'Peace Maintenance Corps'*. The citizens of the DPRK resisted the US occupation and there was all - people resistance to US imperialism including the struggle of the young people who formed guerrilla units. Eventually the US imperialists were driven out of the occupied areas thanks to the unyielding struggle of the guerrillas and the unity of the people around President KIM IL SUNG and the Workers Party of Korea.

Participants praised the film for its excellent portrayal of the struggle of the people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

A short documentary clip *'Leader's Quotes: Kim Jong Un on Role of Women in Revolution and Construction'* was shown.

To conclude the clip *'Ring the Bell of Korea* 조선종소리울려라 (*Jingle Bells DPRK Version'* was shown.

Film night concluded at 2030 hours.

(Korean Friendship Association UK)

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of the Ministry of National Defence,
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK),
titled: 'The hostile forces' any attempt to use nuke
will face a preemptive and deadly counteraction'
which was issued on Sunday 17th of December

Due to the reckless and extremely bellicose moves of the US imperialists and the south Korean fascist puppet warmongers the situation on the Korean peninsula is deteriorating rapidly. Yesterday the *'USS Missouri'*, a nuclear submarine arrived in Pusan port of south Korea. This is frontal challenge to People's Korea.

The US imperialists and their south Korean puppets on the 15th of December held a meeting of the so - called: *'Nuclear Consultative Group'*, which made reference to establishing an extended nuclear deterrence system by the middle of next year. It was decided to include a nuclear operation drill in the Ulji Freedom Shield in August 2024. All these actions are dragging the Korean peninsula closer. As the statement of the DPRK Ministry of National Defence points out:

'This is an open declaration on nuclear confrontation
to make the use of nuclear weapons against the DPRK
a fait accompli in case of emergency
and examine the operational procedures
for its implementation in an atmosphere of real war'

The statement of the DPRK National Defence Ministry declares that the revolutionary armed forces of People's Korea will take counter - measures against the threatening moves of the US imperialists and south Korean puppets warning that they will '*face a pre - emptive and deadly counteraction'*.

We support the right of People's Korea to defend itself against US imperialism and the south Korean puppet compradors. We support the statement of the DPRK Ministry of National Defence which is a profoundly revolutionary, anti - imperialist and independent one.

HANDS OFF PEOPLE'S KOREA !

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 18th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
on the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of the appointment,
of the Great Leader Generalissimo Kim Jong Il,
as Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army (KPA)

The 19th Plenary Meeting of the 6th WPK Central Committee made the momentous decision to appoint the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il as the

Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army on the 24th of December 1991.

The appointment of the great leader generalissimo Kim Jong Il as Supreme commander of the Korean People's Army was a great step forward on the long march of the Songun revolutionary leadership. The Korean People's Army, founded by the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung ,is the reliable defender of socialist Korea. Moreover as the DPRK is on the front line of the struggle against imperialism, the KPA is the defender of world socialism and the anti - imperialist forces of the world so assuming the post of supreme commander of the KPA meant that the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il assumed the responsibility for the defence of world socialism and world peace.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il, carried forward the cause of Juche - army building started by the great leader President Kim Il Sung. The excellent revolutionary traditions of the KPA forged by the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il Sung in the anti - Japanese armed struggle and the Fatherland Liberation War were maintained and carried forward. As supreme commander of the KPA, the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il built up the KPA as the army of the leader with a steel - like unity based on the Juche idea and the Songun Idea .This was complemented by the blossoming of the great army-people unity under Songun revolutionary leadership of the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il. This is unknown elsewhere in the world.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il is the brilliant commander of Songun, the general of Mt Paektu. Beginning his Songun revolutionary leadership on the 25th of August 1960 at the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards no 105th division of the KPA. As a result of tireless guidance to the KPA he accumulated great experience and commanding arts becoming a pre - eminent general and an ever - victorious iron-willed brilliant commander.

At the time when the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il was appointed KPA Supreme Commander the international situation was complex owing to the treachery of the revisionists who frustrated socialism in many countries. The DPRK faced acute threats from US imperialism and all kinds of international reactionary forces Supreme Commander comrade Kim Jong Il has by his brilliant commanding art and adroit tactics defeated all these attempts to stifle Korean style socialism by force, honourably defending Juche Korea, the bastion of socialism.

Comrade Kim Jong Il shattered the military blackmail of the US imperialists by ordering the KPA into a semi - war state on the 9th of March 1993. 1n 1994 KPA Anti Aircraft gunners shot down as US helicopter and the DPRK triumphed in the Yongphyong Island shelling incident of 2010. A nuclear thunderbolt of Songun hit the US imperialists when the DPRK tested its own self - reliant nuclear deterrent.

The great Leader comrade Kim Jong Il administered Songun politics fully by building up the KPA as the core force of the Korean revolution. He ensured that the KPA was not only strong in arms but strong in ideology and politics. Supreme

Commander Kim Jong Il fully promoted the revolutionary soldier spirit, the epitome of the militant Songun ideology, which pulsated throughout society leading to world - startling feats like the construction of the Anbyon power station.

Thus, the 24 years of leader's Kim Jong Il's command of the Korean People's Army were years of great achievements in which the KPA has been strengthened greatly . Because of the decisive role of the anti - imperialist military front there have been victories in other fields such as the economy and culture. We recall these achievements and remember the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il as an ever - victorious iron - willed brilliant commander. Today, respected Marshal Kim Jong Un is carrying forward comrade Kim Jong Il's cause of Juche army building .

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 16th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK, the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, the UK Korean Friendship Association, and the British Solidarity Committee, for Peace and Reunification in Korea, today issued a joint statement, on the occasion of the 45th anniversary, of the slogan 'Let Us Live Our Way', put forward by the Great Leader Comrade Kim Jong Il

On the 25th of December 1978 in his speech titled: *LET US INCREASE THE PARTY'S FIGHTING EFFICIENCY AND BRING ABOUT A FRESH TURN IN THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM'* put forward the slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* as the strategic line of the Korean revolution.

The slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way!'* was a striking and bold slogan, a militant revolutionary slogan that declared Korea's will to live its own way free from imperialism. It was an expression of the Juche - based faith of the DPRK guided by the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung to independently and in the spirit of self-reliance construct socialism without being fettered by big power - chauvinism or US imperialism. At the time when the slogan was put forward, the DPRK faced intense pressure from the modern revisionists and opportunists as well the sanctions and blockades of the US imperialists and the machinations of the south Korean puppets. In order to counter these manifold attempts to derail the building of socialism a high degree of self - reliance was required. It was the demand of the times. As the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il pointed out:

'It is only when one displays a great revolutionary spirit of self - reliance
that one can have faith in one's own strength,
exploit the internal resources of one's country to the maximum
and conduct the revolution and construction with success.

Experience shows that only when one gives full play
to the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance
can one surmount every manner of difficulty and ordeal.

Even though the anti - Japanese guerrillas
received no assistance from a regular army or from a state in the past,
they, by displaying to a high degree the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance,
overcame manifold difficulties and hardships,
defeated the brigandish Japanese imperialists
and accomplished the noble cause of national liberation.

In the period after the Korean War our party members
and working people rehabilitated the devastated economy
by our efforts and transformed our country
into a powerful socialist industrial state in a short span of time.

The situation we are in today demands that we display to a high degree the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance. At present no country is willing to help another nor is any country in a position to help another, even should she want to'

The adoption of *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* dealt a powerful blow to the imperialists and modern revisionists, it was also a rejection of *'reform'* and *'opening up'*.

The slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* is more than a mere simple slogan but represents the strategic line of the DPRK and the Korean revolution. Under the slogan of *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* he Korean people stepped up socialist construction under the banner of Juche and built a socialist country of Juche, independent, self - sufficient and self - defensive. The DPRK became a proud strategic state and has a Juche - based, independent, self - reliant national economy.

Today the slogan is just a relevant as it was in 1978 in fact more so as many countries in the world do not live their own way but are crushed under the weight of globalisation, *'coca - colaisation'* cultural imperialism and the intervention of US imperialism. Indeed *'Let Us Live our own way'* should be the watchword for anti - imperialists and anti - globalists !

The slogan of *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* has proved its correctness in practice; the DPRK has closed its borders for nearly 4 years and yet survived when some countries would not last 2 or 3 days with their borders closed.

We are sure that the DPRK will win even greater victories under the banner of *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* and self - reliance.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 16th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
on the occasion of the significant 106th anniversary of the birth,
of Madame Kim Jong Suk,
Mother of Korea and immortal anti - Japanese,
revolutionary woman heroine

The forthcoming 24th of December will see the 106th anniversary of the birth of Madame Kim Jong Suk, Mother of Korea and the great woman revolutionary. Her life is a great example for the revolutionary and progressive women of the whole world to learn from. Comrade Kim Jong Suk was indeed the great paragon of women revolutionaries, a model of a Juche type communist revolutionary.

Madame Kim Jong Suk was born into a poor peasant family in the northern city of Hoeryong. She lived a hard life as a child but with her keen intelligence she became aware of the oppression of Japanese imperialism and the contradictions of class society. At an early age she joined the Korean People's Revolutionary Army founded and commanded by the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung.

Comrade Kim Jong Suk distinguished herself as a crack - shot and a great woman partisan fighting the Japanese aggressors. She created a great example for women to follow in the revolutionary armed struggle, smashing the backward myth that women should stay at home and be passive. At the same time, she embodied the time-honoured features of Korean womanhood. She was loyal to the great leader general Kim Il Sung, the sun of the Korean nation and lodestar of the anti - Japanese armed struggle. She defended the safety of the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung, sun of the Korean nation with her own life. In the Dashahe battle of 1940 she dispatched with her pistol a couple of Japanese imperialist aggressor soldiers, who had sneaked up, threatening the life of the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung.

Comrade Kim Jong Suk brought up the young Kim Jong Il as a revolutionary,a future soldier and leader of Korea. She is truly the mother of Korea. After liberation from Japanese imperialism in 1945 she worked hard to build a new democratic Korea. She always led a frugal life and worked day and night. She inspired women to turn out in the struggle for a new democratic Korea. She founded the Korean Democratic Women's Union and accomplished the liberation of women from the double and triple oppression of imperialism and feudalism. Meeting south Korean women she gave them guidance on the reunification of Korea and the south Korean revolution.

Comrade Kim Jong Suk an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter blazed a

trail for the women's emancipation movement in Asia and the world. Comrade Kim Jong Suk created a model of Juche - oriented, socialist, proletarian feminism showing the correct way to liberate women and she smashed all bourgeois, revisionist and opportunist falsehoods on the women's liberation question. Comrade Kim Jong Suk serves as a role model for anti - imperialist women revolutionaries throughout the world, her teachings show the correct way forward for the women's movement even in the imperialist countries.

Today in the DPRK women are playing an increasing role in society thanks to the leadership of the dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un who is actively carrying forward the idea of Madame Kim Jong Suk on the liberation of women.

We remember comrade Kim Jong Suk, on the 106th anniversary of her birth, as the true paragon of women revolutionaries who created a model for authentic socialist women's liberation.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 16th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK, the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, the UK Korean Friendship Association, and the British Solidarity Committee, for Peace and Reunification in Korea, today issued a joint statement, supporting the 'White Paper', of the Korea Association for Human Rights Studies, of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

The Korea Association for Human Rights Studies of the DPRK issued a *'White Paper'* on the 11th of December to mark the 75th anniversary of the World Declaration of Human Rights at the third session of the UN General Assembly on Dec. 10, 1948. The World [Declaration of Human Rights was a major landmark in humanity's struggle to realise dignity and fairness for all. It followed by a number of international conventions on different aspects of human rights].

However, the US imperialists and other Western countries have gone against the World Declaration of Human Rights and have ceaselessly violated human rights. As the *'White Paper'* issued by the DPRK Korea Association for Human Rights Studies states *'The dignity and rights of human being mentioned by the declaration are now ruthlessly being violated in the U.S. and other Western countries where all sorts of social evils such as gun - related crimes, racial discrimination, violent actions by police and maltreatment of women and children are rampant'*. We fully concur that the US and other Western countries should be brought to book for their human rights violations.

Our organisations believe that world progressive people should thwart attempts by the US imperialists to tarnish the reputation of anti - imperialist independent countries such as the DPRK and struggle against imperialist intervention.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 12th of December Juche 112 [2023])

Report of Korean Friendship Association UK, International Online Meeting: 'People's Korea Continuing The Revolution and Living its Own Way', held 10th of December 2023

An online meeting organised by the Korean Friendship Association UK (KFA UK) and British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, under the title of *'People's Korea Continuing the Revolution and Living its Own Way'*, took place at 1500 hours GMT on Sunday 10th of December. Participating were members of KFA UK and the British Group for the Study of Juche Idea from London, West of England, Liverpool and Staffordshire as well as leaders and members of the New Communist Party of Britain, Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain ML and Internationalist Revolutionary Communist Party. The meeting was also joined by international guests from KFA Germany (including the great - grandson of Willhelm Pieck, the first president of the German Democratic Republic) and from the People's Korea Initiative.

Dr Dermot Hudson Chairman of KFA UK and Chairman of the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea introduced the meeting saying that it is important to remember the great leader comrade KIM JONG IL and recall his life by emphasising that the revolution continues.

A 2 minute silence was observed in memory of Chairman KIM JONG IL.

Comrade Alan Bolon, Organization Secretary of KFA UK, head of KFA UK West of England and editor of *'People's Korea Today'* spoke on the subject of *'Living Our Own Way'* stressing that:

'Living our own way is, in a word, to live as required by the Juche idea.

In other words, it means thinking and acting in the right sense as required by the Juche idea and carrying on the revolution and construction in the interests of the Korean people and according to the actual conditions of Korea.

Thanks to the great revolutionary spirit tempered in the anti - Japanese and anti - imperialist struggle, the steadfast and iron will, and the joint effort of generations, over the past decades the Korean people have continued revolutions and socialist construction by their own forces, relying on themselves and not appealing to any patterns or any outside help'

Theo Russell, a member of the Political Bureau of the New Communist Party and

National Organiser of the New Communist Party, spoke about Chairman KIM JONG IL's contribution to the cause of Korean reunification and also the Songun policy stressing that one day Korea will be reunified.

Michael Chant of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain Marxist Leninist in his contribution said that the DPRK always lived its own way and stressed the need to uphold the DPRK's right to be and quoted Shakespeare.

The chairman of Staffordshire KFA UK and secretary general of the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea in his contribution explained the essence of the slogan: *'Let Us Live Own Our Way'* and also praised the DPRK as self - reliant socialist state with free healthcare, free housing etc and real people's democracy.

Dr Dermot Hudson making the keynote contribution said that:

'When Chairman KIM JONG IL took the mantle of leadership
after great President KIM IL SUNG passed away in July 1994,
the DPRK faced innumerable and huge difficulties.

The collapse of the USSR due to modern revisionism
meant that the world socialist market disappeared,
some countries tore up trade agreements and demanded settlement in dollars !
The imperialists tightened their sanctions.

The DPRK was hit by a series of natural disasters from 1994 to 1997,
at one point 80 percent of crops were wiped out
and also substantial damage was done to infrastructure and the energy sector.

The reptile imperialist media and so - called 'Korea experts'
(bourgeois academics in the pay of south Korea and the CIA)
predicted the imminent collapse of the DPRK,
even claiming that the DPRK would collapse in May 1996 …
Chairman KIM JONG IL turned the situation around'

Dr Hudson pointed out that:

'Today the DPRK lives according to the principle 'Lets Us Live Our Own Way'.

Back in 2018 some of the mainstream and so - called experts said
that the DPRK would open a McDonalds and a KFC
and would join the International Monetary Fund,
none of which has happened.

Instead the Workers Party of Korea is leading the Korean people
to struggle against anti - socialist and non - socialist ideas
and to reject alien lifestyles'

The vice - chairman of KFA Germany said that:

'under the wise leadership of Comrade KIM JONG IL,
the challenges of the difficult march caused by natural disasters
were overcome and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK),
has not only defended socialism,
but has become a Korean - style socialist nuclear power'

Participants held a brief discussion session about how to build solidarity with People's Korea and gain support from the British labour and trade union movement. A letter to respected Marshal KIM JONG UN was adopted.

A resolution calling for the dropping of all charges against KFA President Alejandro Cao De Benos and the restoration of his passport was adopted.

The short film *'Kim Jong Il the People's Leader'* (extract from the 'The Brilliant History of Great Leadership').

The meeting concluded at 1710 hours.

(Korean Friendship Association UK)

Speech by Dr Dermot Hudson, to the Korean Friendship Association UK, 'People's Korea Continuing The Revolution and Living its Own Way', held 10th of December 2023

December is a month that sees many important anniversaries of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). In a week's time on the 17th of December it will be the solemn anniversary of the passing away of the great leader Chairman KIM JONG IL some 12 years ago, on the 24th of December it will be 106 years since Madame KIM JONG SUK, immortal anti - Japanese revolutionary heroine and indomitable communist revolutionary fighter was born and it will also be the 32nd anniversary of comrade KIM JONG IL 's election as the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army. On the 30th of December it will be 12 years since respected comrade KIM JONG UN was appointed as Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army marking the continuity of the revolution. It should also be mentioned that it was 45 years since comrade KIM JONG IL put forward the militant revolutionary slogan *'Let's Live Our Own Way'* on the 25th of December 1978. Lastly it is 10 years since the Korean people successfully thwarted attempts to derail the Korean revolution and restore capitalism. Hence the theme of this meeting is *'People's Korea Continuing the Revolution and Living Its Own Way'*, so as to simply not mark these anniversaries of the DPRK but to highlight the meaning behind them.

Chairman KIM JONG IL passed away suddenly on the 17th of December 2011 on a train whilst giving guidance to key economic sectors in the DPRK. I can remember the announcement one very cold December morning and being shocked by it and

later visiting the DPRK embassy. I visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, DPRK several times since 2011 and actually saw the train carriage which Chairman KIM JONG IL had passed away on. It is a very moving and emotive experience as the carriage has been arranged exactly as it was on the day he left us. Comrade KIM JONG IL had worked day and night for the people without rest.

Comrade KIM JONG IL had guided the struggle to build a great prosperous, powerful socialist nation. During the period of his revolutionary leadership comrade KIM JONG IL visited 14,290 units in the DPRK travelling a distance of 669,884 kilometres which is the equivalent of 17 times around the earth. In the period from 1995 until his demise in 2011 comrade KIM JONG IL visited 12,290 units and travelled 629 ,992 kilometres.

When Chairman KIM JONG IL took the mantle of leadership after great President KIM IL SUNG passed away in July 1994, the DPRK faced innumerable and huge difficulties. The collapse of the USSR due to modern revisionism meant that the world socialist market disappeared, some countries tore up trade agreements and demanded settlement in dollars! The imperialists tightened their sanctions. The DPRK was hit by a series of natural disasters from 1994 to 1997, at one point 80 percent of crops were wiped out and also substantial damage was done to infrastructure and the energy sector. The reptile imperialist media and so - called: *'Korea experts'* (bourgeois academics in the pay of south Korea and the CIA) predicted the imminent collapse of the DPRK, even claiming that the DPRK would collapse in May 1996 .

Chairman KIM JONG IL turned the situation around. In 2011, the DPRK was stronger than in the days of the *'arduous march'* in the 1990s . Industries like the self - reliant Vinalon industry had been revived, new land had been created through the rezoning of land (which at the same time wiped out the vestiges of feudal ownership and made the restoration of capitalism in country areas impossible). Key industries like the steel industry (hardly have a steel industry in the UK and it is not owned by the British by outsiders such as China and India) were updated and upgraded. The consumer goods industry was expanded. Indeed one of the last places that comrade KIM JONG IL visited before his demise in December was the newly built Kwangbok Area Supermarket. I visited the DPRK in both 1996 and 2008 and on both occasions travelled back to Beijing on the train, it was very clear that the DPRK had overcome the difficulties of the 1990s and was on the path to prosperity. I saw abundant crops in the area around Sariwon.

It was also thanks to comrade KIM JONG IL that the DPRK emerged as a nuclear power and a satellite launching nation. The DPRK was not the DPRK of the early 1950s nor was it the old feudal Korea which was only able to produce simple rifles and whose armed forces were disarmed and liquidated by Japan.

Chairman KIM JONG IL was the successor to the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered by the great leader President KIM IL SUNG. He ensured that the WPK became the party of the great leader comrade KIM IL SUNG defending the

monolithic unity of the Workers' Party of Korea, smashing the attempts of modern revisionists, opportunists, factionalists and great power chauvinists to defile the revolutionary constancy of Juche. When the imperialist reactionaries and renegades of socialism sneered at socialism, demanding that the DPRK *'open up'* and *'reform'* he declared *'Expect No Change from Me !'*.

Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN took the baton of leadership from Chairman KIM JONG IL, when the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea on the 30th of December 2011. Earlier the daily newspaper of the Workers Party of Korea *'Rodong Sinmun'* had urged comrade KIM JONG UN to take over the Supreme Commandership of the Korean People's Korea.

Respected KIM JONG UN continued the revolution that had been started by the great President KIM IL SUNG and carried forward by Chairman KIM JONG IL. Supreme Commander Marshal KIM JONG UN visited the historic Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards no 105 tank division of the Korean People's Army on the 1st of January 2012, this is the unit where the great leader comrade KIM JONG IL began his Songun revolutionary leadership (and is also the first tank unit to go into Seoul during the liberation of south Korea during the Fatherland Liberation war). In his first public speech titled: *'Let Us March Forward Dynamically Towards Final Victory, Holding Higher the Banner of Songun'* on the 15th of April 2012 which I witnessed in person, Marshal KIM JONG UN declared that: *'The permanent strategy of our revolution and its final victory lie in going straight along the road of independence, the road of Songun, the road of socialism, indicated by President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il'*.

Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN made sure the Korean revolution continued along the road of Juche, the road of Songun that had been charted out by President KIM IL SUNG and Chairman KIM JONG IL, without any concession or deflection. It was Marshal KIM JONG UN who put forward the brilliant policy of developing the nuclear force and economy in parallel or Pyongyjin which was a modern adaption of the line of building the economy and national defence simultaneously that had been put forward by President KIM IL SUNG in 1962.

In December 2013, ten years ago, the Workers Party of Korea under the leadership of respected Marshal KIM JONG UN liquidated the modern factionalist clique who schemed to derail the Korean revolution and restore capitalism in the DPRK.

Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN has carried out the idea of *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* which was originally put forward by comrade KIM JONG IL on the 24th of December 1978 in a speech titled: *'LET US INCREASE THE PARTY'S FIGHTING EFFICIENCY AND BRING ABOUT A FRESH TURN IN THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM'*. At the time the DPRK faced intense pressure from the US imperialists and modern revisionists and peculiar and strange events took place in a neighbouring country to the DPRK so the slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* was put forward. As Comrade KIM JONG IL explained:

'It is only when one displays a great revolutionary spirit of self - reliance
that one can have faith in one's own strength,
exploit the internal resources of one's country to the maximum
and conduct the revolution and construction with success.

Experience shows that only when one gives full play
to the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance
can one surmount every manner of difficulty and ordeal.

Even though the anti - Japanese guerrillas
received no assistance from a regular army or from a state in the past,
they, by displaying to a high degree the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance,
overcame manifold difficulties and hardships,
defeated the brigandish Japanese imperialists
and accomplished the noble cause of national liberation.

In the period after the Korean War our party members
and working people rehabilitated the devastated economy
by our efforts and transformed our country
into a powerful socialist industrial state in a short span of time.

The situation we are in today demands that we display to a high degree the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance. At present no country is willing to help another nor is any country in a position to help another, even should she want to'

Today the DPRK lives according to the principle *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'*. Back in 2018 some of the mainstream and so - called experts said that the DPRK would open a McDonalds and a KFC and would join the International Monetary Fund, none of which has happened. Instead, the Workers Party of Korea is leading the Korean people to struggle against anti - socialist and non - socialist ideas and to reject alien lifestyles.

Although Chairman KIM JONG IL passed away to our deep regret 12 years ago, the revolution continues and the DPRK lives its own way as he would have wished.

(Dr Dermot Hudson, Deputy Editor / Reviewer 'PKT',
General Chairman KFA UK)

Speech by Alan Bolon,
to the Korean Friendship Association UK,
'People's Korea Continuing The Revolution and Living its Own Way',
held 10th of December 2023

I would like to a bit, briefly reflect on the meaning of these words *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* and their great message it carries.

Living our own way is, in a word, to live as required by the Juche idea. In other

words, it means thinking and acting in right sense as required by the Juche idea and carrying on the revolution and construction in the interests of the Korean people and according to the actual conditions of Korea.

Thanks to the great revolutionary spirit tempered in the anti - Japanese and anti - imperialist struggle, the steadfast and iron will, and the joint effort of generations, over the past decades the Korean people have continued revolutions and socialist construction by their own forces, relying on themselves and not appealing to any patterns or any outside help.

'Let Us Live Our Own Way' is the slogan which has been undertaken by the main force of the Korean revolution - the Workers' Party of Korea, as the respected comrade said:

'Long ago, the Party proclaimed the slogans
'Let us live our own way!' and
'Let us give fuller play to the Korean - nation - first spirit!'
No other slogans could be more readily accepted by us.

We should, by holding higher the banner of the Juche idea,
adhere to the principle of independence,
and at all times live our own way.'

(Kim Jong Il, *'Let Us Hold the Great Leader in High Esteem Forever and Accomplish His Cause'*)

The *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* slogan and the related enthusiasm of the Korean nation in building socialism, in constantly following the path of revolution, is an outstanding proof - that the socialist political and social system and the basing of the economy on socially planned means of production work, work very well. The current power and prosperity of DPRK is proof of this. Thus, it contradicts all the claims spread by the capitalist camp in the world's countries that socialism is outdated and ineffective. Socialism and its Korean face, the face Korea of Juche with Korean style - socialism.

Today, we can say with certainty that this socialism has stood the test of time and the test of history. At a time when counter - revolutionary forces overthrew the socialist system in Europe in the 1990s, when the blind and deceptive fascination with the West and its questionable moral and ethical values as well as liberal economic policy led to socio - economic disasters and subordination to the US imperialist forces and even led to wars and conflicts, Korea of Juche, following the slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'*, steadfastly and persistently followed the same path, the same path of revolution as ignited by Great Leader Kim Il Sung and the same flames Mount Paektu spirit led the Korean people to successive victories. Learning from the mistakes of other countries, where socialism collapsed, the Korean nation and its leader Kim Jong Il, further strengthened the political and ideological foundations of the Korean path to socialism, and as a result of following this path, he built a powerful and prosperous country, a socialist paradise where

everything serves man and is for man.

Finally, in the slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* - it is worth emphasizing the great maxim of wisdom of the Juche philosophy, which contains the strength and vitality of solving problems by one's own strength and with one's own solutions. It is the Juche idea, that is the pillar of the slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way'* and its meaning to live independently and act on your own way to solve all the social problems aroused in the process of socialist revolution with self - respect and pride in your achievements.

'Let Us Live Our Own Way' - is a great slogan containing deep wisdom and knowledge, it can be said that it is an internationalist term in its expression, to live in one's own way, in one's own independent way is the essence of independence that DPRK fought for during the Japanese occupation and during the war against the imperialist invader and which it skillfully protected during many years in the anti - imperialist struggle. This is true independence, true freedom, that I wish for all countries, especially those under colonial oppression and exploitation by capitalism, and especially for the Palestinian brothers in current days, who heroically resist the Zionist Israeli regime.

(Alan Bolon, Main Graphic Editor 'PKT',
Organisation Secretary/Security Officer KFA UK,
Chairman West of England Branch KFA UK)

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of comrade Kim Son Kyong,
vice - minister for International Organizations,
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,
Foreign Ministry titled:
'The U.S., a stumbling block to international peace and security,
has no right to remain in the sacred UN arena'
made on the 10th of December

In his press statement comrade Kim Son Kyong, vice - minister for International Organizations of the DPRK Foreign Ministry rightfully drew attention to the massive double standards and hypocrisy of the US imperialists who used their veto to vote down a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. As comrade vice minister Kim Son Kyong correctly points out *'Gaza Strip of Palestine has been turned into a sea of blood and heap of ashes due to the indiscriminate military attacks by Israel'.*

The US have truly disgraced themselves by backing the Israeli Zionists genocidal war against the Palestinian people.

Whilst opposing a ceasefire in Gaza and any kind of peaceful settlement the US imperialists have hypocritically criticised other countries for using their veto on the UN security council with regard to US attempts to impose sanctions on the DPRK simply because it exercised its independent right to self - defence.

The US blathers about the so - called *'right of self - defence'* for Israel (which in reality means the genocide of the Palestinian people), but strongly opposes the DPRK's right of self - defence. The press statement of comrade Kim Song Kyong raises the following question

'If Israel's massacre of civilians
is a 'legitimate exercise of the right to self - defense',
it would have been necessary to give an answer
to the question why the DPRK's exercise of the right to self - defense
to safeguard the security of the country and people
and the regional peace and stability
should be dealt with as 'illegal' at the UNSC'

We strongly support the DPRK righteous denunciation of the appalling and nauseating double standards and hypocrisy of the US !
Down with US imperialism!

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 10th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK, the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, the UK Korean Friendship Association, and the British Solidarity Committee, for Peace and Reunification in Korea, issued a joint statement, on the 12th anniversary of the passing away, of the Great Leader Comrade Kim Jong Il

On the 17th of December it will be 12 years since the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il passed away so suddenly whilst giving on the spot guidance to key economic sectors.

The demise of the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il was the greatest loss of the Korean people as he was the benevolent father of the Korean people. It was also the greatest loss of the world revolutionary people and the Juche Idea and Songun Idea followers of the world. Although the heart of the great leader comrade Kim Jong Il ceased to beat on December 17th 2011, he is alive in the hearts and minds of the Korean people and world people and his ideas live on.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il was a leader of extraordinary ability and

fortitude. His accomplishments and achievements span many different fields and sectors from culture to military affairs. He was best known to the world people as the great defender of socialism and independence and the leader who developed the Juche idea and Songun idea. Indeed, the name of comrade Kim Jong Il is intimately bound up with the administration of Songun politics.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il led the Korean revolution for a period of more than five decades which began with his guidance to the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su no 105th tank division of the Korean People's Army on the 25th of August 1960. Under the leadership of comrade Kim Jong Il, the DPRK became a mighty power of ideology and politics and also a socialist military power possessing its own powerful war deterrent which made the imperialists shake with fear.

Comrade Kim Jong Il was the loyal and faithful successor to the great leader generalissimo Kim Il Sung. He was the standard bearer of the Juche revolutionary cause which had been pioneered by the great leader generalissimo Kim Il Sung the eternal president of the DPRK. He ensured that the WPK became the party of the great leader comrade Kim Il Sung defending the monolithic unity of the Workers' Party of Korea, smashing the attempts of modern revisionists, opportunists, factionalists and great power chauvinists to defile the revolutionary constancy of Juche. When the imperialist reactionaries and renegades of socialism sneered at socialism, demanding that the DPRK *'open up'* and *'reform'* he declared: *'Expect No Change from Me !'*

Comrade Kim Jong Il defended and developed the purity of the Juche Idea. He systematised and enriched the Juche idea in his historic 1982 thesis*: 'On the Juche Idea'.* This work constitutes an almanac of the Juche idea which clarified its philosophical essence and that man has independence, consciousness and creativity. Thus, the Juche idea shines out a philosophy for achieving the independence of the popular masses. The Juche idea is a powerful weapon for achieving human emancipation from all kinds of misery and oppression.

When socialism was frustrated in some countries owing to the treachery of modern revisionism comrade Kim Jong Il energetically defended socialism and wrote brilliant works such as *'Our Socialism Centred on the Popular Masses Shall Not Perish'*, *'Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable', 'Socialism Is A Science', 'Giving Priority to Ideological work is essential for accomplishing socialism'* and many others provided a source of hope for the people aspiring to socialism.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il, developed in depth the Songun idea, an embodiment of the Juche Idea and treasured sword for defending socialist Korea. The Songun Idea and Songun politics are the cutting edge of the anti - imperialist class struggle in this era. Comrade Kim Jong Il fully administered Songun politics as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army comrade Kim Jong Il led the work of defence up - building and continued the cause of Juche - army building pioneered by the great leader President Kim Il Sung. Stressing the importance of the anti - imperialist military front he led the DPRK to victory in the DPRK - US

confrontation smiting the reactionary US imperialists by carrying out 2 nuclear tests so that the DPRK became a global nuclear power, a proud independent socialist nuclear power of Juche. Thanks to this legacy bequeathed by comrade Kim Jong Il, the DPRK could sit down and negotiate with the USA as an equal partner.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il led the struggle to build up the independent national economy. He made sure that the living standards of the Korean people were improved. Under his leadership the many social benefits enjoyed by the Korean people were preserved and further enhanced. He passed away whilst on a trip of on - the - spot guidance, thus he was working for the people right up to the last minute. He always wore plain clothes. He was the epitome of a true people's leader who believed in making flowers bloom on a rock if it was necessary for the people.

Comrade Kim Jong Il, the lodestar of national reunification, led the Korean people along the road of independence and great national unity with his resolute will to implement the instructions of the great leader President Kim Il Sung for national reunification. The June 15 declaration which embodied the concept of *'By Our Nation Itself'*, broke through the barrier of national division imposed by the US imperialists.

The great leader comrade Kim Jong Il led the cause of anti - imperialist independence throughout the world. Songun politics was an inspiration to the peoples struggling against imperialism and the Juche Idea a powerful compass for defeating imperialism. The many works written by comrade Kim Jong Il are a guiding compass for the fighting peoples of the world. The DPRK became associated with the defence of the socialist principle, thus encouraging the world people in their struggle for socialism.

Although twelve years have passed since comrade Kim Jong Il passed away, the vitality of his ideas shines even brighter today and his work is carried forward by his successor dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un. People's Korea, which was the legacy of comrade Kim Jong Il, today is prospering despite the extreme sanctions of the imperialists,

Today the Korean people under the wise leadership of the dear respected Marshal Kim Jong Un are faithful to the ideas and cause of great comrade Kim Jong Il and are stepping the struggle for socialist construction in the revolutionary spirit of self - reliance.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 9th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK, the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, the UK Korean Friendship Association, and the British Solidarity Committee, for Peace and Reunification in Korea, issued the following statement, on the 10th anniversary of the liquidation, of the anti - party, counter - revolutionary factional clique, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

On the 8th of December it will be some 10 years since the modern - day factionalist clique of the anti - party traitor were defeated and liquidated. The DPRK, under the leadership of dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN defeated an attempt by modern day factionalists to overthrow the state and socialist system of the DPRK. The anti - party counter - revolutionary factionalists were ideologically aligned to US imperialism and world imperialism (also to international revisionism and big power chauvinism). The factionalists would have turned the DPRK into a colony of imperialism. As dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN said:

'The identity of the modern version of factionalist group
is that it was an ideologically degenerate entity
which was outwardly overcome with fear for the pressure by the imperialists
and inwardly contaminated with bourgeois ideology and culture'

The action that the DPRK took was entirely just and correct as the most dangerous enemy a country can face is the enemy within. One enemy inside is equal to a hundred outside.

The DPRK is on the road of final victory as Marshal KIM JONG UN said:

'Historically speaking,
great victory was won in the Fatherland Liberation War
after the purge of an anti - Party, counterrevolutionary factionalist clique
following the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee;
the Chollima upswing was brought about in the course of eliminating
the August 1956 factionalist group;
and world - startling successes were achieved in the showdown
with the United States and the socialist industrialization
drive after the anti - Party revisionists were exposed
and purged at the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Party Central Committee'

Now under the leadership of dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN the DPRK is stepping up anti - imperialist class education and intensifying the ideological revolution. The DPRK will be ever - victorious under the leadership of dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN!

The DPRK is now stepping up education in the revolutionary traditions of Mt Paektu and holding high the banner of self - reliance.

The 10 years since the defeat of the modern factionalist clique have been years of advance and growth which has seen the rapid economic growth of the DPRK and the emergence of People's Korea as a proud independent power of Juche. Each day the day grows stronger. Today People's Korea led by respected Marshal KIM JONG UN is stepping up the struggle against anti - socialist acts and non - socialist practises as well as counter - revolutionary and opportunist ideology.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 5th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement titled:
'Illegal double standards can never be allowed in space,
common asset of mankind'
made by the spokesperson,
for the National Aerospace Technology Administration (NATA),
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK),
on the 5th of December 2023

The US imperialists have gone frantic in their denunciation of the DPRK for the mere fact that it launched its very own independent, self - reliant military reconnaissance satellite. However, the US has approved of the south Korean puppets launching a military satellite with the intention of carrying out aggression against the DPRK.

In fact, the south Korean puppet spy satellite was launched entirely with US assistance and technology. The south Korean puppet satellite was launched from a US space base and was launched not using south Korean technology but a rocket belonging to the Space X corporation of US billionaire ElonMusk.

As the spokesperson of the NATA states:

'Today's tragic situation,
where the legality of satellite launch is judged
whether it is conducted by the DPRK,
an independent sovereign state,
or by the ROK, a subordinate and pro - U.S. state,

makes it possible to clearly understand
who is the arch criminal wrecking peace
and stability on the Korean peninsula
and violating universal international norms'

It is very bad that the US continues with its brazenly ridiculous double standards in the 21st century and tries to apply them to outer space which is an asset common to humanity.

We strongly denounce the double standards of the US imperialists and other reactionaries. We reiterate our support for the DPRK's just right to space exploration and its right to legitimate self - defence.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 5th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK, the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea, the UK Korean Friendship Association, and the British Solidarity Committee, for Peace and Reunification in Korea, today issued a joint statement, hailing the holding of the 5th National Meeting, of Mothers in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the speech made by respected Marshal KIM JONG UN, titled: 'On Duty of Mothers for Their Families and Society'

The 5th National Meeting of Mothers in the DPRK was held in the presence of respected Marshal KIM JONG UN from the 3rd of December to the 4th of December in Pyongyang, the revolutionary capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). It was attended by over 10,000 mothers of different ages and from different walks of life. Such a meeting is truly unique in the world and can only be held in People's Korea.

In his opening remarks to the meeting respected Marshal KIM JONG UN put forward important task for mothers such as increasing the birth rate of the DPRK and non - socialist practices to be eliminated among young people.

In the keynote address to the meeting: *'On Duty of Mothers for Their Families and Society'*, respected Marshal KIM JONG UN praised the role of mothers in society and stressed the importance of mothers in society. As Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN said*:*

'In moments of hardship or difficulty,
one would think of their mothers before anybody else,
who gave birth to them, fed and clothed them,
and helped them with their first steps'

This words contain a great truth and a great deal of wisdom.

In the speech respected Marshal KIM JONG UN stresses the overwhelmingly importance of ideology as the sound foundation for bringing up children in a socialist society:

'Unless a mother becomes a communist,
it is impossible for her to bring up her sons and daughters as communists
and transform the members of her family into revolutionaries'

This is absolutely true.

Respected Marshal KIM JONG UN also says that mothers should encourage their children to take part in tough labour and should take part in socialist construction so as to set an example.

Moreover the struggle against alien practices in society can only be victorious when mothers take part in it.

There is no doubt about it respected Marshal KIM JONG UN's speech gives very important teachings on the role of mothers in a socialist society. Guided by the ideas of respected Marshal KIM JONG UN new victories will be won in the struggle to build a thriving socialist country.

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 6th of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of the spokesman,
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK),
Foreign Ministry made on Saturday 2nd of December 2023

The launch of the DPRK military reconnaissance satellite *'Malligyong -1'* is the absolute independent and sovereign right of the DPRK. It is also a matter of improving the DPRK's self - defensive capabilities so as to increase its deterrence against the US imperialists and other threats. However the US and other countries such as Australia, south Korea and Japan have taken a high - handed attitude and have imposed unilateral sanctions against the DPRK.

It is very wrong to impose sanctions on the DPRK simply because it has exercised its *' ... legitimate right to space exploration and to self - defence ... '*. As it is stated by the DPRK Foreign Ministry: *'The unilateral and illegal sanctions of the U.S. seriously*

violating the UN Charter with sovereign equality, non - interference in internal affairs and respect for the right to self - determination as its core and other principles of international law are the main factors undermining the international order based on equity and multilateralism'. The sanctions against the DPRK are illegal and have no validity under international law.

The statement of the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry clarifies that the DPRK will take steps to defend it interests by applying counter - measures to different individuals, organisation of the US and it lackeys who are responsible for the implementation of sanctions against the DPRK. We applaud that measure. It is good that the DPRK is hitting back. We think it would be good if there was a big campaign by supporters and friends of the DPRK to boycott US goods !

HANDS OFF PEOPLE'S KOREA !

DEFEND PEOPLE'S KOREA !

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 3rd of December Juche 112 [2023])

The Association For the Study of Songun Politics UK,
the British Group for the Study of the Juche Idea,
the UK Korean Friendship Association,
and the British Solidarity Committee,
for Peace and Reunification in Korea,
today issued a joint statement,
supporting the statement of the spokesman,
of the DPRK Ministry of National Defence,
titled: 'Any attack on space asset of the DPRK,
will be deemed declaration of war against it',
on Saturday 2nd of December 2023

Recently the rabid and aggressive US Imperialists who have been greatly angered and shaken by the successful launch of the DPRK military reconnaissance satellite, starting blathering about destroying the *'Malligyong - 1'* military reconnaissance satellite. This is dangerous talk by the Yankees and an attempt to intimidate the DPRK.

According to international law, specifically, *'Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies',* any space vehicle is the sovereign territory of the state that launched it. Therefore, any attempt to destroy or intercept or interfere with the *'Malligyong -1'* is an attack on the territory of the DPRK! The spokesman of the DPRK Ministry of Defence declared that: *'The U.S. Space Force's deplorable hostility toward the DPRK's reconnaissance satellite can never be overlooked as it is just a challenge to the sovereignty of the DPRK, and more exactly, a declaration war against*

it'.

It really is the height of imperialist warmongering and sabre rattling that the Yankee imperialist are threatening to blow up the DPRK's satellite or mount a cyber - attack against it or jam it. Outer space should not be turned into a theatre of military conflict.

The DPRK Ministry of National Defence strongly warns the US against any irresponsible warmongering actions stating that: *'It is the mission of the armed forces of the DPRK, specified by its constitution and other laws, to exercise their war deterrent to protect the state sovereignty and territorial integrity in case a lethal military attack is carried out against the country's strategic assets or it is judged that such attack is imminent'*.

We support the stance of the DPRK to defend its interests and sovereignty as manifested by the press statement of the DPRK Ministry of National Defence!

No to US imperialist warmongering in space!

US Hands Off People's Korea!

Defend People's Korea!

(ASSPUK, BGSJI, KFA UK and BSCPRKP, London 2nd of December Juche 112 [2023])

Statement of Korean Friendship Association UK, in regard to the detention of the KFA President, Comrade Alejandro Cao De Benos

Korean Friendship Association UK was very shocked yesterday afternoon to learn that KFA President Alejandro Cao De Benos, had been arrested in Spain at the request of the FBI. However, we were relieved that he was released from detention and is safe and well.

The detention of comrade Alejandro was most unjust. It was a politically motivated action and part of an intrigue by the deep state of the US and some other countries to destroy the Korean Friendship Association. They want to criminalise support for People's Korea!

The incident shows how false the so - called: *'democracy'* and *'human rights'* that are advocated by the imperialists and their liberal friends is. Supposedly we live in a '*democracy'* but those with opinions that are different to the status quo are arrested or kicked out of jobs.

US laws can only apply on US soil not in Spain or anywhere else. The allegations against comrade Alejandro anyway are inaccurate and false.

The timing of the arrest is not coincidental. The arrest happened days after the highly successful KFA International Meeting in Barcelona. It is as if the US is trying to take revenge against comrade Alejandro and KFA!

Alejandro is totally innocent of doing anything wrong. Alejandro is totally innocent of doing anything wrong. KFA UK expresses its full solidarity to comrade Alejandro Cao De Benos, to international KFA and KFA Spain !

Korean Friendship Association will never be silenced!

Defend the Korean Friendship Association!

Defend People's Korea!

Stop Press!

Spanish media are reporting that the US has withdrawn the extradition request for our KFA President Alejandro Cao De Benos. Of course, the US charges against Alejandro are completely false! If the reports are confirmed then this a victory for Korean Friendship Association and a vindication of our just cause.

(Korean Friendship Association UK)

Second - day Sitting of 9th Plenum, of 8th Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee Held

The second - day sitting of the 9th Plenary Meeting of the 8th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) took place on Wednesday amid the deep interest and expectation of all the Party members and other people of the country looking at the strategic stronghold of our revolution after hearing the news of the convocation of the December 2023 Plenum with great excitement.

The respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un made an important conclusion on the direction of struggle for 2024.

In the conclusion, he defined it as the general orientation for future struggle to successfully implement the programme set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK by further amplifying and making the most of the favorable condition created through the unyielding struggle in the past three years and to lay a springboard for a fresh advance in the future. And he set forth the militant tasks to be carried out by all the fields of the revolution and construction in 2024, a decisive year for securing a vivid practical guarantee for the fulfillment of the five - year plan.

He stressed the issues to be prioritized in steadily expanding the successes in socialist construction including the strengthening of the state administrative and economic work system and order and the further enhancement of the Cabinet's responsibility and role and clarified the important tasks for the new year to be dynamically pushed forward in the key industrial sectors such as metal, chemistry,

electric power, coal and machinery and in the overall economic fields including light industry and construction and the ways for carrying them out.

He stressed the Party and state measures for accelerating the rural development including the rural housing construction, an important construction project started by the historic resolution of the 8th WPK Central Committee, the issue of stabilizing the agricultural production on a high level by continuously directing big efforts to farming and the essential and vital matters for steadily improving the land and environment protection and the urban management and providing the citizens of the capital city with more civilized and affluent living conditions.

The conclusion also set the priority goals for the development of the regional industry and the fishing industry and indicated the orientation for expanding and developing the external economic work.

The General Secretary indicated the tasks and ways for the cultural field, including science, education, public health, literature and art, media and sports, to make a steady leap forward on the basis of this year's successes and referred to the practical issues for remarkably enhancing the role of the people's power organs and law enforcement organs and more dynamically organizing and conducting the work of the working people's organizations.

He set forth the militant tasks for the People's Army and the munitions industry, nuclear weapons and civil defence sectors to further accelerate the war preparations, on the basis of in-depth analysis of the grave political and military situation in the Korean peninsula which reached extreme due to the anti - DPRK confrontation moves of the U.S. and its vassal forces unprecedented in history.

He clarified the independent principle of the WPK to expand and develop the

relations of strategic cooperation with the anti - imperialist independent countries and dynamically wage the anti - imperialist joint action and struggle on an international scale under the rapidly changing world geo - political situation and indicated the orientation of the external affairs and the work towards the south.

The conclusion underlined the key issues for further consolidating the organizational and ideological foundation of our Party and refreshing the Party's ideological work as required by the developing situation.

The General Secretary's important conclusion was fully supported and approved by all the participants as it clarified the new year's orientation of advance and guidelines of practical action for steadily and prudently implementing the Korean - style development strategy through more courageous and resolute struggle despite the ever - increasing challenges and difficulties.

The plenary meeting continues to discuss the agenda items.

(Pyongyang, December 28
Korean Central News Agency)

9th Plenary Meeting, of 8th Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee Held

The year 2023 is a year that the whole Party and all the people have united around the great Party Central Committee and worked heart and soul to demonstrate the mightiness, solidity and invincibility of the DPRK with eventful victory and signal development. It has recorded heroic annual to be immortal in the history of the country, and fully proved that the dignity of a genuine power and the fame of a strong one are on the orbit of independence, self - sustenance and self - defence advancing unyieldingly.

Under the subjective and objective situation heated with arduousness and

fierceness, the power and the prestige of the DPRK have grown stronger than ever before with the passage of the half period of the implementation of the five - year plan which had never been smooth.

In the course of the struggle to implement the five - point Party - building line in the new era, the core and innovative system and methods of Party work were studied and implemented to firmly ensure the far - sighted policy of the WPK. And the DPRK's policy of nuclear force was specified in the Socialist Constitution, the basic law of the state, thus bringing about a great political event to firmly lay a strong institutional and legal foundation for defending the state, self - respect and national interests.

Thanks to the attainment of the main goals of the five-year plan for the development of national defence, new strategic weapons were developed one after another, the whole of national defence capabilities rapidly advanced and space reconnaissance assets were possessed. As a result, the DPRK has been unswervingly put on the position of a military power.

On the agricultural front, the dominant height for national economic development, the huge annual irrigation construction target decisive of substantial and profitable development was fulfilled ahead of schedule and a rare harvest was achieved. And the successes on 12 major goals were made one after another. Modern new streets, dwelling houses boasting of high civilization and various edifices were spruced up in the capital city and other parts of the country, thus making the whole year seethe with the ceremonies of moving into new houses and inauguration events.

Forcing through the most responsible and vital course of the Korean revolution with high spirit of self - respect and indomitable spirit, the DPRK people bear in mind the truth of history that the seasoned leadership of the Party Central Committee is the lifeline guaranteeing the overall prosperity and development of Korean - style socialism.

The ranks of the general onward march that are confidently looking forward to the future of building a rich country with strong army on the road of following the great Party Central Committee are full of strong spirit and stubborn spirit without moment's conceit and marking time, and the irresistible and inexhaustible might peculiar to our state and people is stretching to the bright future with this bold advance.

The Party Central Committee, which has taken the important duty to vigorously guide the implementation of the grand programme set forth by the Eighth Party Congress by maintaining the spirit of advance in 2023 and waging a more highly expanded struggle, greeted its crucial moment to review this year's remarkable successes and adopt the orientation and policy for the development of the Party and state affairs in the New Year 2024.

The December 2023 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) was convened at the office building of the WPK Central Committee on December 26 with the great expectation and interest of all the Party members, working people and service personnel who aspire after dynamic steps toward greater victory focused on the supreme general staff of the Korean revolution.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, was present at the plenary meeting.

Attending it were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK, members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK, and members and alternate members of the C.C., WPK.

Present as observers are officials of departments of the Party Central Committee, leading officials of ministries, national institutions, leadership bodies of provincial level, cities, counties and major industrial establishments and chairpersons of city and county agricultural management committees who set an example in agricultural production this year.

The presidium was elected with members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Jong Un presided over the plenary meeting.

The plenary meeting put six major agenda items including the review of the implementation of the Party and state policies in 2023, the orientation of struggle in 2024, the implementation of the state budget in 2023 and the draft state budget for 2024 and a series of issues for strengthening the Party's leadership function at present.

The plenary meeting unanimously approved the agenda items and went into the discussion of the first agenda item.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made a report on the implementation of the Party and state policies in 2023.

The report proudly appreciated the eye-opening victories and events achieved in all fields for socialist construction and the strengthening of the national power in 2023, a year of great importance in the course of our Party and people to realize the fighting programme put forward by the Eighth Party Congress. And it reviewed the Party Central Committee's determination made at the critical situation of the developing revolution, its responsible leadership practice and locomotive role.

The report introduced in detail the development indices of the overall national economy which is clearly proving that the comprehensive development of socialist construction is being pushed forward in real earnest and in an accelerated way, and referred to the proud successes achieved in the field of culture including science, education, public health and sports.

It estimated a new change and progress made in Party building, state power activities, politics, national defence and diplomacy.

The General Secretary in his report defined 2023 as a year of great turn and great change both in name and reality, in which the DPRK left a great trace in the glorious course of development in the efforts to improve the national power and enhance the prestige of the country, and extended warm thanks on behalf of the Party Central Committee to all the Party members, people and service personnel

who have dynamically pushed forward with a new phase of prosperity and development, overcoming all difficulties and hardships with firm trust in our cause and indomitable spirit.

The report analyzed and reviewed in depth a series of deviations revealed in the implementation of the Party and state policies this year and their causes and lessons from a developmental point of view.

Hearing in earnest the historic report of the respected General Secretary, who clearly indicates that the overall work of the Party and the state is being dynamically pushed forward with firm aspiration for development, all the participants hardened their confidence in sure victory and were determined to guarantee the successful implementation of the fighting programme of our Party through bold and substantial work, aware of the important duty they have assumed before the Party and the revolution.

Then followed speeches and written speeches of leading officials in various fields.

The speakers made a strict analysis of the work of their fields this year in the light of criticism and proposed the practical measures to the plenary meeting. They expressed their determination to devote themselves to fulfilling their responsibilities with a sense of heavy pressure and sense of responsibility as befitting the leading personnel who are shouldering the destiny of the Party's decisions and the success of the overall national prosperity at the most important and decisive time in the history of the development of the DPRK.

The plenary meeting continues.

(Pyongyang, December 27
Korean Central News Agency)

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Its Nuclear Forces Policy in the Constitution

Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly unanimously adopt the amended Socialist Constitution.

December 27 is the Socialist Constitution Day in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The coming Constitution Day means a lot as it will be greeted for the first time after the state enshrined in the Constitution in the end of September last the principle of state activity related with the building of modern nuclear forces and the historic mission of its armed forces.

As is known, the DPRK proclaimed the law on the national nuclear forces policy at the Seventh Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly in September 2022, and in the end of September this year it defined at the Ninth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly the status of its nuclear forces and the principle of state activity related with the building of the nuclear forces in the Socialist Constitution, its principal law and political charter.

The Constitution, before its amendment, stipulated in Article 58 of Chapter 4 that the DPRK is shored up by the all - people, nationwide defence system, and in Article 59 of Chapter 4 it stipulates that the mission of the armed forces of the country is to safeguard the interests of the people and defend the socialist system, the gains of

the revolution, and the freedom, independence and peace of the country from foreign aggression.

The amended Article 58 of Chapter 4 stipulates that the DPRK, as a committed nuclear state, shall accelerate the development of nuclear weapons to ensure its rights to existence and development, deter war and safeguard peace and stability of the region and the rest of the world.

In other words, the Constitution clearly defines the country as a committed nuclear state and clarifies the acceleration of the development of its nuclear weapons as a principle of state activities in the field of national defence.

For several decades since its founding, the DPRK has been under ceaseless threat of the US, the biggest nuclear power in the world, and its followers. The US defined as its state policy to attack the DPRK with nuclear weapons, and introduced nuclear weapons to the region around the Korean peninsula, waging provocative nuclear war games.

Recently it has activated in collaboration with south Korea the nuclear negotiation group, which was set up for the use of nuclear weapons against the DPRK, and introduced nuclear assets to the region of the Korean peninsula. It is now more undisguised to organize an Asian version of NATO by accelerating the formation of a tripartite military alliance with Japan and south Korea.

During the protracted confrontation with the US and its followers the DPRK had to possess nuclear weapons and enshrined in law the policy of consolidating its nuclear weapons.

Today the existence of the sovereign states and the right to existence of their people are seriously threatened by an emerging New Cold War structure and the imperialists' ambition for supremacy and expansionist schemes.

This reality proves that the choice and determination of the DPRK was absolutely right.

Had it pinned its hope on the nuclear umbrella of other countries or given up the line of consolidating its national defence forces under the temptation and blackmail of the imperialists as others did, it would not have avoided nuclear holocaust and destruction long ago.

It is the strategic judgment of the DPRK that it should never change or concede its present status as a nuclear power but should continuously strengthen its nuclear forces as long as it remains a socialist state and the nukes of the imperialists exist on the earth.

That would be why in its Constitution the country defined its status as a nuclear state and clarified that it would accelerate the development of its nuclear weapons

to ensure its rights to existence and development.

It is the strategic goal of the US to achieve supremacy in the Asia - Pacific region, the Korean peninsula and its surrounding region in particular. In the past, in order to realize this strategy, the US would openly reveal its intention to wage a nuclear war in this region.

The more the DPRK accelerates the development of its nuclear weapons, the more deeply the US and its followers should think over their reckless expansionist policy. This will make due contribution to peace and stability of the region and the rest of the world.

The DPRK's enshrining in its Constitution of the acceleration of its nuclear weapons to deter war and safeguard peace and stability of the region and the rest of the world is indeed a historic contribution to security and peaceful future of mankind.

The amended DPRK constitution also stipulates that the mission of its military forces is to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country and the rights and interests of its people, safeguard the socialist system and the gains of the revolution from all kinds of threats, and ensure peace and prosperity of the country by dint of a powerful military capability.

DPRK made it clear in its Law of the DPRK on the Nuclear Forces Policy that its nuclear forces are the main forces of national defence in safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country and the lives and safety of its people from the military threat, aggression and attack by the foreign forces. This definition is poles apart from the behaviour of the US, which, in a frenzy of ambition for supremacy, continues to threaten other countries with its nuclear weapons.

The DPRK also enshrined in the law that it would neither threaten nor attack with nuclear weapons non - nuclear states as long as they do not take sides in the aggression or attack against it in conspiracy with other nuclear states. This proves that its nuclear weapons are, to all intents and purposes, for its defence, peace and prosperity.

The enshrining of the state nuclear forces policy in the Constitution, the principal law, of the country provided the Korean people a powerful political instrument with which to remarkably strengthen its defence capability including nuclear forces, consolidate the institutional and legal foundations for the defence of its security and interests and accelerate the comprehensive development of socialism.

It also demonstrated to the world once again that the will, determination and practical struggle of the Korean people to defend the supreme interests of their country by updating the nuclear weapons cannot be checked by any one or by any strength.

The US and its followers are blaming the measures taken by the DPRK.

However, the Korean people care less about their moves as they value their self-respect and dignity more than their life itself and are determined to do anything at any cost to defend them.

(Korean Publications Exchange Association)

Energy - saving oxygen - blast furnace, and 15,000 m^3 / h oxygen plant inaugurated

An inaugural ceremony of the energy - saving oxygen - blast furnace and oxygen plant of 15,000 cubic metres per hour set up at Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex was held on the spot on December 20.

Present there was Kim Tok Hun, Member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Vice - President of the State Affairs Commission and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Also on hand were O Su Yong, Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, officials concerned, officials and employees of Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, the Chongjin Metal Construction Complex and the Equipment Assembly Complex, officials of the commissions, ministries, national agencies and the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee who contributed to the construction, members of the February 17 Shock Brigade of Scientists and Technicians, scientists, technicians and researchers.

O Su Yong conveyed a message of thanks of the Central Committee of the WPK to the workers, technicians and officials who performed distinguished feats in building a new Juche iron production process at Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex.

Premier Kim Tok Hun made an inaugural address.

Upon authorization of the Party Central Committee and the DPRK government, he

extended warm congratulations and paid respects to the entire builders, scientists and technicians including the workers of Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex who rendered great services to developing the metallurgical industry of the country.

He said:

The energy - saving oxygen - blast furnace built at the great base of the metallurgical industry in the northern part of the country is a precious creation of the idea of the WPK on self - respect and self - support and a crystallization of ardent loyalty and patriotic devotion of the Korean workers, scientists and technicians who have kept the Party's idea on Juche iron as their faith.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un saw that bold, development - oriented and realistic goals for shoring up the metallurgical industry were set and put forward tasks to build more oxygen - blast furnaces of new type and boost the production capacity on the basis of the experience of Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex that built an oxygen - blast furnace of Korean style and is normalizing the iron and steel production.

The inauguration of the energy - saving oxygen - blast furnace and oxygen plant of 15,000 cubic metres per hour proves once again that infinite is the strength of the people building an independent economic giant by supporting the leadership of the Party Central Committee with one mind and purpose and there is no fortress we cannot conquer, the speaker stressed.

Premier Kim Tok Hun ardently called on all to wage a more vigorous struggle to hit the goal of steel production under the five - year plan in high spirit of having implemented the Party decision with success.

Then, speeches were made.

After the ceremony, the participants looked round the new Juche iron production process.

(Pyongyang, December 22
Korean Central News Agency)

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un,
Meets and Congratulates Soldiers,
of Second Red Flag Company under General Missile Bureau

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, invited to the office building of the Party Central Committee the soldiers of the Second Red Flag Company under the General Missile Bureau, who participated in a launching drill of ICBM *'Hwasongpho - 18'* and congratulated and encouraged them on December 20.

The soldiers were greatly excited and delighted to enter the yard of the Party Central Committee with their glorious colors in high spirit of fully demonstrating the might of nuclear strategic force of the DPRK in the launching drill to be specially recorded in the history of the development of the strategic force under the personal guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Attending a photo session were Kim Jong Sik, vice department director of the WPK Central Committee, and Jang Chang Ha, general director of the General Missile Bureau.

When Kim Jong Un appeared at the venue of the photo session, all the missile soldiers broke into cheers in token of the most enthusiastic respect, looking up to him, the absolute strength of powerful Juche Korea and representative of the great dignity.

Kim Jong Un congratulated the soldiers of the company on showing by practical action the steadfast stand of the Party, government, army and people of the DPRK to stand against and counter with the U.S. and successfully carrying out the Party's battle order to demonstrate the reliability and militant might of the nuclear strategic force of the DPRK by resolutely and proudly conducting the launching drill of the most powerful ICBM which greatly shocked the U.S. imperialists and their top class stooges, the wreckers of peace and stability, who have committed self - destructive acts all the year round, obsessed with the incurable hysteria of confrontation with the inviolable DPRK.

Saying that he was deeply impressed with the combat efficiency of the company which displayed high mobility and rapid attack capability in the launching drill, he expressed warm thanks to the company, reflecting the trust of all the people in it.

He said that the resolute military activity conducted by the company this time true to the Party's battle order was a demonstration of loyalty and strong stand of the DPRK's armed forces defending the sovereignty of the country and a clear explanation of the offensive counteraction mode and the evolution of the nuclear strategy and doctrine of the DPRK not to hesitate even a nuclear attack when the enemy provoke it with nukes.

Saying that defending of the country's dignity, sovereignty and interests can be certainly guaranteed only by strong power, he added that it is the genuine defence capability and defence of durable peace to have the real capability for preemptively attacking the enemy anywhere and the war posture, making any enemy feel fear.

He said that the duty of the company is very important, adding that the company should always bear deep in mind the heavy responsibility for safeguarding the final fort for defending the sovereignty and social system of our state and strive to steadily improve its combat efficiency as a force performing a part role of the strategic forces of the country.

Expressing expectation that the company would reliably carry out its sacred special mission of preventing a war and defending peace by fully preparing itself for fulfilling its mission of nuclear war deterrence anytime, he paid tribute to the brilliant honor of the Second Red Flag Company of the General Missile Bureau, a pride of the Party and the state, and had a photo session with the reliable soldiers.

The combatants of the company made a firm pledge to always remain faithful to the order of the great Party Central Committee and carry out in a responsible manner the important mission the company assumed before the Party, the country and the revolution.

(Pyongyang, December 21
Korean Central News Agency)

Press Statement by Kim Yo Jong, Vice Department Director of Central Committee, of the Workers' Party of Korea

Kim Yo Jong, vice department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, released the following press statement on December 21:

The U.S. and its vassal forces are persistently pushing the security environment on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia into a vortex of confrontation and conflict. Their intentional and premeditated military threats are anti-peace moves to squarely challenge the desire of mankind for peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia and the rest of the world.

The ceaseless military drills of the U.S. and its vassal forces reminding one of the overall preparations for invasion under the pretext of deterring threats from someone and the frequent appearance of the U.S. nuclear weapons clearly aim at the DPRK and this is the root cause of escalating the regional situation.

However, the UNSC, again, eliminated and tolerated the U.S. and the Republic of Korea's provocation both in rhetoric and action, a direct motive of sparking the DPRK's reaction. It held a meeting to take issue with only the DPRK's exercise of the right to self-defence, thus fully revealing its true color of uselessness and weakness for international peace and security.

It is very regretful.

I feel very unpleasant over the fact that the UNSC convened an open meeting according to the brigandish demand of the U.S. and its satellite countries and brought up the sovereign right of the DPRK into discussion, and strongly condemn it.

The UNSC should place heavy responsibility on the irresponsible behavior and act of the U.S. and the ROK, which have aggravated the tension on the Korean peninsula through all sorts of military provocations all year round while inciting the anti - DPRK confrontation posture, and the international community should raise the voices of unanimously criticizing the very ones escalating the tension in the region.

From now on, the hostile forces had better worry themselves about how the DPRK would define and regard the character of the coming scenarios for the military confrontation with the DPRK predicted by the U.S. and the ROK and with what mode the DPRK would respond to them.

(Pyongyang, December 21
Korean Central News Agency)

Clear Display of DPRK Strategic Forces' Toughest Retaliation Will and Overwhelming Strength
Launch Drill of ICBM 'Hwasongpho - 18' Conducted

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) gave an

order to take a powerful warning measure under the grave situation, in which the hostile forces' anti - DPRK military threat that has persisted for the whole of this year is getting evermore undisguised and dangerous even at this moment of year - end December.

On December 15, the U.S. and the military gangsters of the Republic of Korea held a nuclear war confab called the second meeting of the *'Nuclear Consultative Group'* in Washington and openly revealed their intention to conduct large - scale joint drills under the simulated conditions of an actual war of *'nuclear retaliatory strike'* at the DPRK, again crying out for the *'end of its regime'*.

Such reckless behavior of the enemies, posing evident threat to the security of the Korean peninsula and the region under the eyes of the world in the coming year, is further touching off the strong resentment of the government and armed forces of the DPRK and their will to take the toughest retaliation.

The enemies have determinedly strained the regional situation by staging various kinds of escalated military drills targeting the DPRK every month since January, recording the largest - ever level. And they are now loudly announcing the planned war drills aggressive in nature to be further detailed in the new year. The present situation clearly shows the inveterate confrontation stand of the U.S. and its predominant stooges keen on their unchangeable instinctive and constitutional ambition for aggression and predicts a black augury of total destruction of the security environment in the Korean peninsula to be further aggravated.

What should not be overlooked is the fact that the U.S. again dispatched its nuclear-powered submarine Missouri to the Korean peninsula, as an extremely provocative action, on Dec. 17 to pose a more grave threat to the security environment of the DPRK and the region, loudly advertising about it, not content with the frequent deployment of nuclear war hardware of various kinds including nuclear strategic bombers, super - large strategic nuclear submarine and nuclear carrier in the Korean peninsula to turn it into an assembly base for all the U.S. nuclear strategic assets.

Due to the confrontational maneuvers of the U.S. and its puppet military gangsters who are escalating the tension on the Korean peninsula, going in and out the region like their house, the territory of the DPRK and its boundary area are exposed to serious danger every moment and its security and interests are extremely violated. This grave situation is urgently requiring the DPRK to inevitably turn over to a changed action, a more offensive counteraction.

Under the decision of the WPK Central Military Commission on neutralizing the enemies' intentional and premeditated confrontational military threats with our strong behavioral warning, a drill of launching ICBM *'Hwasongpho - 18'* was staged as an important military action to clearly show the DPRK's nuclear strategic forces' overwhelming counteraction will and matchless strength to the enemies.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, watched the launching drill of an ICBM unit on the spot.

Accompanying him were commanding officers of the DPRK General Missile Bureau. The drill was aimed to review the combat readiness of the DPRK's nuclear war deterrence and confirm its mobility, combat capability and reliability.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un listened to the plan for the launching drill, acquainting himself with the preparation for launch in a standby district beforehand.

Then he mounted the central command observation post to approve the launch of a strategic weapon, and General Jang Chang Ha, general director of the General Missile Bureau, issued a launch order to the Second Red Flag Company.

The moment, a huge body full of the absolute will and strength to mercilessly retaliate against the hostile forces obsessed with the ambition for nuclear confrontation with the DPRK began soaring into the sky with a shower of fire in its tail, making a deafening explosion.

The missile traveled up to a maximum altitude of 6 518.2 km and flew a distance of 1 002.3 km for 4 415s before accurately landing on the preset area in the open waters off the East Sea of Korea.

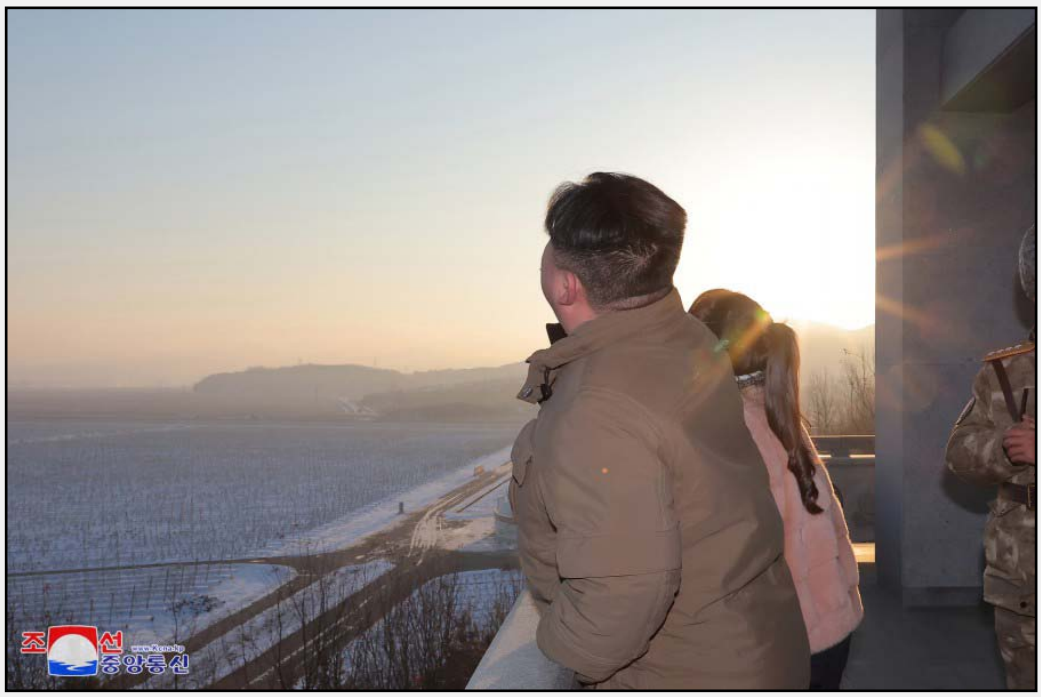
The launching drill had no negative effect on the security of the neighboring countries.

Through the drill, the combat capability of ICBM unit was highly estimated. And also verified once again were the rapid response posture of the strategic armed forces of the DPRK and the reliability of the most powerful strategic core striking means of the DPRK's military muscle.

Expressing great satisfaction over the results of the launching drill, Kim Jong Un said with pride that the successful drill is a practical demonstration of the

actual condition and reliability of the formidable striking capabilities and absolute nuclear war deterrent possessed by the DPRK's armed forces.

He said that the launching drill sent a clear signal to the hostile forces, who have fanned up their reckless military confrontation hysteria against the DPRK all the year round and are frantically maximizing it till the end of this year despite the repeated stern warnings and denunciation by the DPRK. Noting that it was an occasion to clearly show what action the DPRK has been prepared and what option the DPRK would take when Washington makes a wrong decision against it, he appreciated that the drill once again and strikingly displayed the DPRK's will for toughest counteraction and its overwhelming strength.



The U.S. imperialists and their vassal forces' vicious ambition for confrontation will not abate of its own accord, he said, stressing the need for the DPRK to never overlook all the reckless and irresponsible military threats of the enemies destroying the basis of peace and security in the Korean peninsula and to strongly counter them with more offensive actions by adopting a more evolutionary and threatening way when the enemies continue to make a wrong choice.

He inspected the launching drill and set forth some new important tasks for accelerating the development of the DPRK's nuclear strategic forces.

The ceaseless bolstering of the national defence capability and the overwhelming counteraction are the consistent and immutable revolutionary policy and fighting spirit of the DPRK that can never change to defend the national dignity, sovereignty and interests. The nuclear strategic forces of the DPRK will perfect their military posture with more accuracy and confidence to resolutely suppress any grave military crisis and war crisis that may come at any moment.

(Pyongyang, December 19
Korean Central News Agency)

'Let Us Live Our Own Way !', Ever - victorious Banner of Revolution

The Workers' Party of Korea has solved in its own way all problems arising in the revolution and construction and paved a broad avenue toward prosperity for many years, thus performing unprecedented miracles to be etched in history.

Such successes would have been unthinkable without the immortal exploits of Chairman Kim Jong Il, who put forward the revolutionary slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way!'* 45 years ago to have the banner of Juche held higher across the DPRK.

In December Juche 67 (1978), Kim Jong Il told officials that the present times urgently call on them to establish Juche in all fields of the revolution and construction more firmly than ever before and live in their own way. *'Let Us Live Our Own Way!'* - this is the strategic slogan our Party has put up nowadays, he noted.

Thanks to the patriotic will and ardent devotion of the peerlessly great man to cement the foundations for the prosperity and happiness of posterity by our own way and our own efforts in all decades, including the 1970s, the 1980s and the 1990s when the Arduous March, forced march, was successfully concluded, eye-opening successes to be proud of before the world were made continuously in all fields of economy, culture and national defence.

Indeed, his decades-long history of revolutionary leadership is the one in which he solved all the problems arising in the revolution and construction in our own way on the principle of self - reliance in conformity with the actual conditions of the country and the interests of the Korean revolution out of the transparent faith of independence.

Today the slogan *'Let Us Live Our Own Way!'* represents the unshakable faith of our people and the ever - victorious banner of our revolution under the leadership of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

Thanks to the guidance of the General Secretary who is solving all the problems arising in the revolution and construction in our own way on the principle of Juche, the slogan has been thoroughly established as our life and the mode of struggle that can never be violated and has been deeply cherished in the hearts of the Korean people as unshakable faith.

(Pyongyang, December 15
Korean Central News Agency)

Meeting of Workers Commemorates Demise Anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il

A meeting of workers and members of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea (GFTUK) took place at the Central Hall of Workers in the capital city of Pyongyang on Thursday to commemorate the 12th anniversary of demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Present there were Pak In Chol, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee, and trade union officials and members and other workers in the city.

At the meeting the performers referred to the immortal revolutionary career and exploits of Kim Jong Il who had always put the people above all else in his great thinking and practice and devoted his all to them.

They expressed their determination to glorify forever the immortal exploits of Kim Jong Il who provided a great history of noble love for the people on this land with his tireless devotion and efforts, and to more dynamically struggle for the prosperity of socialist Korea shining with the august name of the Sun.

(Pyongyang, December 15
Korean Central News Agency)

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Has Photo Session, with Participants in 5th National Conference of Mothers

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, had a significant photo session with the participants in the 5th National Conference of Mothers on Dec. 8.

Present there were Kim Tok Hun and Ri Il Hwan.

The hearts of the participants were full of joy and excitement as they are to have a significant photo of glory taken to be kept as their most precious heirloom in great happiness of them who rose to the platform of the boundless respect and honor of the whole country while receiving the warm blessings of the benevolent Marshal Kim Jong Un whom they yearned for so much.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived at the venue, all the participants raised stormy cheers for the great father of the large socialist family who convened a grand meeting for them, who had fulfilled their due responsibility and duty of motherhood for their families and society, and shows all privileges and warm loving care for them.

Kim Jong Un was presented with bouquets of fragrant flowers by participants in the conference in reflection of the unanimous best wishes of all the mothers across the country.

Waving back to the enthusiastically cheering participants, he extended warm greetings to the participants in the conference and all other mothers across the country who have devoted themselves to the sound growth of their beloved children, harmony of their families and the rosy future of the country.

He said that the heroic feats performed by tens of millions of sons and daughters of the Republic who recorded the history of the Korean revolution with victory and glory are a precious fruition of the boundless affection, love and devotion of the strong and considerate mothers who have brought up the pillars of the country and become the roots for ensuring the steady continuity to the cause of Juche and that all the wealth provided on this land is densely permeated with the jewel - like patriotic loyalty and precious sweat of our resourceful and diligent women.

The family affairs precisely mean the state affairs and the great socialist family will further prosper only when every family, a cell of society, is strong and viable, he said, adding that the noble life of the mothers in this country cultivating the freshness and beautiful future of society came to further shine as great pride and honor of all children who grow to be upright and as the inexhaustible strength of our Party and state with the 5th National Conference of Mothers as an occasion.

He had a significant photo session with the participants in the conference, again wishing health and happiness to all the mothers who have displayed the mental and moral traits of the Korean women best in the world while invariably taking the road of devotion for their families and younger generation and for the prosperity and development of the country, cherishing deep in mind the dearest and sacred call, mother.

He also had a photo of love taken with the school children who carried out the honorable mission as a congratulatory group of the Korean Children's Union (KCU) of the 5th National Conference of Mothers on the same day.

The respected fatherly Marshal kindly waved his hand to the KCU members jumping up and down for great joy.

Embracing schoolchildren following him with tears in their eyes, he gave them warm blessing, hoping that they would more stoutly grow up to be the masters of the future responsible for the country, always bearing in mind the earnest wish of mothers as they added joy and fresh strength to all mothers with their bright and cheerful looks at the conference.

When the photo session was over, stormy cheers rocking heaven and earth broke out again.

All the participants made their firm resolve to firmly inherit the family and national customs of loyalty and patriotism and make a tangible contribution to the building of a prosperous power, cherishing as their lifeline the great love and trust of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who put them on the peak of glory and happiness in the world along with the precious title of communist mother.

(Pyongyang, December 9
Korean Central News Agency)

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un's Opening Address, Made at 5th National Conference of Mothers

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made an opening address at the Fifth National Conference of Mothers on December 3.

The full text of his opening address is as follows:

Dear participants in this Fifth National Conference of Mothers, who are present here on behalf of the seven million mothers of our socialist motherland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

As I have always revered and loved our dear mothers, I am very pleased to see you at this significant meeting. To me, it is a really delightful and moving moment.

First of all, availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to extend the greatest respect and offer my best regards to our mothers, who have put their heart and soul into bringing up their children and rendered a great contribution to achieving national prosperity.

Despite the hardships and burdens they had to endure constantly in their life, our mothers have been concerned solely about how to support the country better and look after their families. Standing here in front of you, I feel my heart swelling with respect and reverence for them all.

Conference of Mothers - this is indeed a meeting reminding everybody of their beloved mothers and filling their hearts with deep gratitude for them.

Today, converging on this venue are the warm blessings and feelings of respect from all over the country. You must have undergone many painful trials and shouldered heavy burdens of your own accord, before attending this conference with a sense of unique pride and dignity.

Taking so many heavy burdens upon your feeble shoulders, you have followed the road of your own choice without seeking selfish interests or expecting any reward; sometimes, you must have found yourself collapsing from exhaustion, but each time, you gritted your teeth and rose up to live up to your pure conscience.

You, mothers of our dear country present here, have always overcome all sorts of mental anguish with a simple smile. For your ennobling spirit you are the most beautiful and admirable in the world, though your facial beauty keeps fading away because of the pains you have experienced.

In moments of hardship or difficulty, one would think of their mothers before anybody else, who gave birth to them, fed and clothed them, and helped them with their first steps.

The same is true of me. Whenever I have found it hard to tackle problems in Party or state affairs, our mothers have come to my mind first.

Each time, the thought of our mothers lifts me up and encourages me, the strong-willed women who go against all overwhelming odds for the growth of their children. Even in the face of trials, they have remained unchanged in their confidence in our

Party and have been invariable in their lifelong commitment to the country's prosperity. Thinking of these daring and self - sacrificing women, I would renew my duty that I must keep going even in the midst of exhaustion, sharpen my sense of responsibility and get a fresh strength.

The self - sacrificing devotion which all our mothers have displayed for the good of this country and their spirit and strength have provided nourishment not simply for their own families but for the future of their motherland as well, and this has propelled our great socialist family to dynamically advance by dint of its solid unity based on virtues and tender feeling.

Because the small fences of families, which our mothers have built up with care out of a feeling of patriotism, constitute the cornerstone that firmly supports the country, our great socialist family is solid and our country continues to grow strong.

This is an immortal exploit performed by mothers of Korea for the Party, the revolution and the country.

The current conference is a platform of boundless tribute and congratulation to them, on which the Party and state crown our patriotic and loyal mothers with the laurels of all victories achieved on the onward march of the new era. This is also a political festival which demonstrates once again the justness and promising future of our cause which regards the coming generations that represent the future of the country and mothers as sacred beings and places them first in considering everything.

Availing myself of this meaningful opportunity, I, on behalf of the Party Central Committee and the Government of the Republic, would like to offer my hearty

gratitude and best wishes to all those present at the conference and to all other mothers in the country, who are cultivating the happiness of their families and the future of the country with warm feelings and affection and silent devotion.

I also offer my heartfelt thanks and encouragement to the overseas mothers who are devoting themselves to handing down the traditions of the nation and patriotism in alien lands, with their minds turned to the capital city of their motherland, where this large gathering of mothers is being held at this moment.

Dear mothers:

As society develops and becomes cultured, the position and role of women grow more important and mothers' share of contribution to strengthening the national power and propelling the revolution becomes greater.

Now we are confronted with a host of social tasks that our mothers should join to tackle.

These tasks include bringing up their children so that they will steadfastly carry forward our revolution, eliminating the recently - increasing non - socialist practices, promoting family harmony and social unity, establishing a sound way of cultural and moral life, making the communist virtues and traits of helping and leading one another forward prevail over our society, stopping the declining birth rate, and taking good care of children and educating them effectively. These belong to our common family affairs, which we need to deal with by joining hands with our mothers.

In view of our mothers' position and role in their families and society as a whole and the actual problems facing our state and revolution, the Party Central Committee considers this conference to be no less important than a Party congress or a plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee.

This conference will make known the positive examples our mothers have set over the past ten-plus years since the Fourth National Conference of Mothers, before holding discussions on the tasks and ways for them to fulfill their responsibilities and role they have assumed before society and their families.

Attending this conference are nearly 10 000 women. They include those who gave birth to many children, who have taken parental care of orphans and sent them to major posts of national defence and socialist construction, who have raised their children as performers of distinguished exploits and as talents, and who have made a great contribution to promoting the good of society and the collective while working faithfully without changing their jobs for several decades, as well as the women's union officials from the capital and different regions.

Fully convinced that this conference will mark an epochal turning point in ensuring that all our mothers, fully aware of their contemporary mission and revolutionary duty, devote their wisdom, strength and enthusiasm to the patriotic cause for the victory of our style of socialism, I declare the Fifth National Conference of Mothers open.

(Pyongyang, December 4
Korean Central News Agency)

Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Military Commentator's Article

The full text of 'The *'Republic of Korea can never evade the blame for having scrapped the North - South Military Agreement'*, an article issued by a military commentator of the DPRK on Dec. 2, is as follows:

The Korean peninsula is now under uncontrollable and alarming situation.

On Nov. 22, the political and military gangsters of the *'Republic of Korea'* abruptly announced suspension of some provisions of the September 19 North-South Military Agreement, groundlessly pulling up the DPRK over its launch of a reconnaissance satellite, the legitimate and just right of a sovereign state. And since the afternoon of the day, they all went into the military confrontation racket, reminiscent of the eve of a war, in the area along the Military Demarcation Line.

The introduction of manned and unmanned aerial reconnaissance assets, the elevation of firepower alert posture in the frontline area of the puppet army and the *'general drill for defending the northwestern islands'* on Paekryong Island, hotspot waters in the West Sea, etc. were conducted in a frantic manner.

Military units equipped with PAC - 2 and PAC - 3, interceptor missiles deployed on land, and Chongung - 2, ground - to - air guided missiles, were also put on combat standby.

All units of the three wings of puppet armed forces have been ordered to wear combat uniform and the defense minister, the army chief of staff and other bosses of the puppet military are busy inspecting the missile strategic command and the Pusan naval operation base to review the combat posture.

The puppet marine corps in Phohang of North Kyongsang Province staged a large - scale actual war drills for landing on the targeted coast under the covering of bombardment of naval vessels, air force fighters and army attack helicopters.

Foreign media focus on the south Korea - U.S. combined naval drill with the U.S. nuclear carrier Carl Vinson and nuclear - powered submarine Santa Fe as a main force, which intruded into the naval bases in Pusan and Jeju Island, timed to coincide with the unusual military moves in the area along the Military Demarcation Line and all other areas of puppet south Korea.

All these are being enforced in parallel with the unilateral declaration of the puppet group on the suspension of some provisions of the September 19 North - South Military Agreement.

The buffer zone along the Military Demarcation Line, which had been maintained for the past five years, is completely destroyed and the unpredictable danger of war

is escalating.

Upon the serious situation, traitor Yoon Suk Yeol and his group are misleading the public opinion, claiming that the DPRK is responsible for it.

As the puppet group of traitors is going so impudent to shift the responsibility for the scraping of the North - South Military Agreement and the deterioration of the situation with illogical far - fetched assertions and sophism, I clearly reveal the truth behind the fact.

Who is chiefly responsible for *'constant breach ?'*

Traitor Yoon Suk Yeol and his group are claiming that the suspension of some provisions of the September 19 North - South Military Agreement was an inevitable measure taken by them as the DPRK had no *'will to abide by the agreement'* and constantly repeated the *'breach'* of the agreement.

Who is the one that totally denied the agreement and consistently violated it, far from having the will to abide by it?

First, let us look back to the *'will to abide by the agreement'*.

It is well known to the world that traitor Yoon Suk Yeol denied the existence of the agreement before he took power, terming it a *'written abandonment of security'* and a *'political drama'*.

Later, he unhesitatingly revealed that he has no will to implement the North - South Military Agreement by declaring the DPRK and its army as the *'principal enemy'* and adopting the military confrontation as a *'state policy'*, which were proved by the farce of preparations for the scrapping of the agreement.

It is necessary to recall that in January this year traitor Yoon instructed the puppet State Security Office, *'Ministry of Defense'* and the Joint Chiefs of Staff to step up the suspension of the September 19 North - South Military Agreement and, accordingly, the puppet military even staged a drill for mastering the procedures for suspending the agreement from March.

Sin Won Sik, puppet minister of Defense who took office in October, repeatedly said on public occasions that the North-South Military Agreement was a wrong agreement and it should be scrapped without fail and that he would do his best to suspend the effect of the agreement at the earliest possible date.

It is by no means fortuitous that media in the region of south Korean puppets commented that Yoon Suk Yeol and the authorities have denied the existence of the agreement, far from implementing it.

Such facts clearly prove that the puppet group's scrapping of the agreement has

been planned as part of its policy of confrontation with the DPRK and has been carried out in perfect order.

However, the puppet group is resorting to shameless farce as if the scrapping of the agreement is attributable to the DPRK, concealing everything it had committed.

The puppet group of traitors is the arch criminal who has constantly breached the agreement.

The agreement stipulates for the total stop to all hostile acts against the other side, the root cause of military tension and conflict in all spaces including the ground, sea and air.

Then, have the puppet military gangsters abided by it? They went quite contrary to it.

Since traitor Yoon took office, military drills have been staged at all levels for mastering the mode of surprise attack on the DPRK every day on the ground, at sea and in the air of the whole region of south Korean puppets.

The large - scale joint war drills targeting the DPRK, including Ulji Freedom Shield joint military exercises, Vigilant Storm combined air drills, Ssangyong joint landing drills and operation training of anti - special warfare unit, amount to more than 80 times which have been opened to public.

The number of anti - DPRK war drills staged by the puppet army alone is countless.

The puppet group organized and operated with its American master the *'Nuclear Consultative Group'*, aimed at making a nuclear attack on the DPRK, in April this year, introduced the U.S. super - large strategic nuclear submarine carrying 80 nuclear warheads into the Pusan operation base in July for the first time in 42 years and landed B - 52H, a U.S. strategic bomber with nuclear missiles, at the Chongju Air Force base for the first time ever, etc. It will take time to mention the constant deployment of various other nuclear attack strategic assets of the U.S.

Extreme military hostile acts in the area along the Military Demarcation Line are more beyond imagination.

In the period from January to October this year alone, the puppet group of traitors committed more than 3 200 loudspeaker broadcasting provocations in the forefront area, more than 1 100 warships of the puppet army invaded the territorial waters of the DPRK for 1 270 - odd times and reconnaissance planes intruded into the territorial air of the DPRK side over 150 times.

In particular, the over 10 hour - long shelling provocation in the frontline area of the 5th Corps of our Army in the eastern front in October last year and the shelling at the Chori Firing Range in Jindong myon, Phaju City of Kyonggi Province in the

western frontline area in March this year were typical violations of Clause 2 of Article 1 of the North - South Military Agreement on the stop of shelling drill in the area along the Military Demarcation Line.

Needless to say, the puppet group will persistently deny or justify these stark facts.

Explicitly speaking, the DPRK has ample evidence proving the facts that the enemies wantonly violated the agreement.

The Yoon Suk Yeol group of traitors has persistently violated the North - South Military Agreement in an all - round and comprehensive way on a step by step basis, obsessed with the hostile consciousness toward the DPRK and the hysteria for military confrontation. It is the height of profound confusing of right and wrong that they talk about *'constant violation'* of someone.

For whom was it needed to scrap military agreement

The Yoon Suk Yeol group of traitors cited the DPRK's legitimate and just launch of a reconnaissance satellite as a direct excuse for the suspension of some provisions in the North - South Military Agreement.

It is quite natural that people are doubtful about this.

This is because no article and phrase in the agreement stipulates any content that reconnaissance satellite should not be launched.

This is the reason why the DPRK brands the enemy's act of pulling up the DPRK over its reconnaissance satellite launch as a deliberate provocation to scrap the agreement and a far - fetched assertion that can not justify itself even a bit.

If the DPRK's satellite launch is a *'violation'* of the north - south military agreement, what are the satellites launched by the enemies so far?

What about the launch of a reconnaissance satellite, which was finally carried out with the backing of the U.S. master on Dec. 2 after delaying it from Nov. 30?
Even shameless ones can never call it *'observance of agreement'*.

The puppet group's assertion which is no more than a self-contradiction is nothing but a revelation of its sinister intention to scrap the agreement at any cost.

The remarks made by an official of the puppet military on Nov. 14 offered counterevidence. He unhesitatingly blustered that if the north launches a reconnaissance satellite, it is their goal to extend the range of suspension by taking the north's *'additional provocation'* as an excuse with the start of the suspension of some provisions of the north - south military agreement and finally nullify the agreement.

Then, why is the Yoon Suk Yeol group of traitors going so frantic to scrap the September 19 North - South Military Agreement?

The group's intention is, above all, to remove obstacles to inciting the hostile feelings toward the DPRK and making military provocations against it in the area along the Military Demarcation Line.

It is needed to probe into the fact that the puppet military gangsters suspended the effect of the Clause 3 of Article 1 of the agreement, which bans the flight of drones and balloons together with fixed - and rotary-wing planes in the sky above the Military Demarcation Line.

The puppet group, which set up the *'command for drone operation'* to carry out the anti - north psychological warfare together with the tasks for monitoring, reconnaissance, attack and electronic warfare against major strategic targets of the DPRK on September 1, has since cried out for nullifying the north - south military agreement in order to resume the drone operation in the area along the Military Demarcation Line as early as possible.

Clear - cut is the intention of the puppet group of traitors to persistently fly balloons in the sky above the Military Demarcation Line.

It is quite obvious that the puppet military is going to conduct the anti-north psychological warfare in full swing through the direct operation of leaflet scattering machines, instead of maneuvering *'civilian organizations'* into anti - DPRK leaflet scattering campaign which has been done so far.

The intrusion of drones and leaflet scattering toward the area of the DPRK side attempted by the enemies are a grave military hostility equivalent to the provocation of a war.

Herein lies the gravity of the puppet group's recent hurried suspension of the military agreement.

It is another sinister intention of the Yoon Suk Yeol group of traitors to trigger off the DPRK's military counteraction by causing a shocking incident in the area along the Military Demarcation Line and seek a way out of the serious ruling crisis.

It is the inveterate bad habit of the successive conservative forces in the region of south Korean puppets to rally the conservative group through the fabrication of the *'north wind'* and brand the anti - government forces as the *'anti - security forces'* and thus maintain the ruling system whenever they are in the grip of political dilemma and ruling crisis.

Traitor Yoon Suk Yeol and his group are now faced with daily-growing massive protest and actions for the *'resignation of regime'*, due to their extreme ignorance,

irregularities and corruption and unpopular misrule.

The *'impeachment of president'* is hotly debated at the puppet parliament as Yoon's mother - in - law was put in prison for illegally acquired wealth and a special inspection system for probing into the past crimes of his wife is about to operate.

Yoon is now like a fish out of water as even Kyongsang Province, the *'citadel of conservatism'*, and conservative media are turning their backs against his regime's arrogant and self - righteous behavior.

It is the unanimous public opinion inside the puppet regime that the ruling party will suffer a heavy defeat in the puppet National Assembly election to be held in April next year and traitor Yoon be ousted from the post of *'president'* under the present situation.

Therefore, the traitor and his group are resorting to foolish military gambling in a bid to divert the public sentiment against the government.

This is proved by the rumors that traitor Yoon can provoke military provocations at the *'cease - fire line'* to maintain his *'power'* and laments that he scrapped the north - south military agreement just like Lee Myung Bak and Park Geun Hye who spoiled the projects for tourism of Mt Kumgang and the Kaesong Industrial Zone in a bid to tide over the ruling crisis in the past.

Provokers should surely pay high price

Owing to the reckless and imprudent moves of the puppet group of traitors to nullify the north - south military agreement, the extreme military confrontation as serious as that before the adoption of the agreement has been created again on the Korean peninsula.

It is needless to say what consequences will be entailed by the complete disappearance of the minimum mechanism and the final line for preventing accidental military conflict in the area along the Military Demarcation Line where huge armed forces stand in highest density and sharp confrontation in the world.

The physical crash and war on the Korean peninsula have become a matter of time, not possibility.

The puppet group of traitors is ridiculously claiming that the suspension of the effect of the north - south military agreement would be a *'bitter counteraction'* to the DPRK and that they have nothing to lose.

This is nothing but a foolish deception to justify the crime of nullifying the agreement and cover up the catastrophic disaster to come.

If one has an elementary military common knowledge and insight, it is easy to judge which side will pay irretrievable fatal price due to the nullification of the

north - south military agreement.

In fact, the agreement weighs against the military operations of the DPRK army.

However, the DPRK adopted the agreement out of a single mind to minimize the danger of armed conflict in the area along the Military Demarcation Line and promote peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and has displayed its utmost patience and self-restraint.

Since the puppet group of traitors challenged the DPRK's good faith and magnanimity with hideous provocation, the army of the DPRK has been able to conduct regular military activities at will, not hampered or bound by any agreement from now on.

The army of the DPRK makes itself clear once again that it has not regarded the puppet army as its worthy opponent from the very beginning.

If the political and military gangsters of the *'Republic of Korea'* dare to commit an outrageous military provocation in the eyes of the DPRK's army, it will show no tolerance and contain and punish with the immediate and powerful strength.

The future situation will go quite contrary to the enemy's expectations.

Inhabitants of the border area and five islands in the West Sea including Paekryong and Yonphyong islands have cried that *'the authorities are now bringing a second Yonphyong Island crisis'* and that they *'can't live because of uneasiness'*. And various circles are strongly condemning the suspension of the north - south military agreement by the group of traitor Yoon Suk Yeol as self - wrong of pulling out the last security mechanism for peace and the *'worst choice'* increasing the war danger on the Korean peninsula. This is undeniable reality.

We make it clear to the puppet group of traitors, engrossed in bravado and blind bravery while talking about additional counteraction and strong punishment obsessed with extreme anti - DPRK confrontation hysteria and intemperate blind belief in and submission to *'south Korea - U.S. alliance'*.

Any hostile act of the puppet group against the DPRK will lead to the miserable destruction of the puppet army and the total collapse of the "ROK".

The prevailing situation proves once again the validity of the choice of the DPRK which has pushed forward with the bolstering of nuclear war deterrence and modernization of armed forces under the leadership of the great Party, despite all sorts of trials and hardships, and underlines the need for the DPRK to invariably advance along this road in the future, too.

The provokers who completely nullified the north-south military agreement will have to surely pay a high price.

(Pyongyang, December 3
Korean Central News Agency)

17th Politburo Meeting of 8th Central Committee, Workers' Party of Korea Held

The 17th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the 8th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) took place at the office building of the WPK Central Committee on December 1.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, attended the meeting.

Present there were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

The meeting discussed the issue of convening the 9th Plenary Meeting of the 8th WPK Central Committee.

Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for Organizational Affairs of the WPK Central Committee, presided over the meeting.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee appreciated that brilliant and encouraging successes have been achieved in attaining the major goals of the Party and state policies, set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK and plenary

meetings of the WPK Central Committee, this year, thanks to the wise leadership of the respected General Secretary and great enthusiasm of all Party members and other people, and discussed the major agenda items to be discussed at the 9th Plenary Meeting of the 8th WPK Central Committee.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee adopted with unanimous approval a resolution on convening the 9th Plenary Meeting of the 8th WPK Central Committee late in December.

The respected General Secretary said that the overall state work is being dynamically promoted with firm purposefulness for development and vigor, as evidenced by markedly stable and constant trend of growth of the national economy, great progress made in agriculture and construction and the epoch-making changes of great significance in bolstering up the national defence capability in particular.

Referring to the measures to be taken to correctly establish a plan for the next year after scientifically examining and diagnosing the experience and lessons accumulated this year, he called upon all the sectors and units to add to their strong spirit of advance and successfully conclude the significant year 2023.

At the meeting assignment was given for the plenary meeting preparations.

(Pyongyang, December 2
Korean Central News Agency)

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, Pays Congratulatory Visit to KPA Air Force Command, and Air Force Regiment of 1st Division

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Air Force Command of the Korean People's Army (KPA) on the Thursday morning on the occasion of the Day of Airmen and congratulated all the service personnel of the heroic people's air force.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by KPA Marshal Pak Jong Chon and KPA Vice Marshal Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff.

When Kim Jong Un arrived at the Air Force Command, service personnel of the air force burst into passionate cheers of *'Hurrah!'* full of great joy and excitement of receiving the highest glory and privilege to be recorded forever in the history of development of the Juche - oriented people's air force along with their significant founding holiday.

A ceremony of greeting the Supreme Commander of the armed forces of the DPRK took place.

After receiving a salute from the head of the guard of honor of the KPA Air Force, Kim Jong Un reviewed the guard.

Airpersons presented him with fragrant bouquets, reflecting the boundless reverence and gratitude of all the service personnel of the air force.

He was greeted by General Kim Kwang Hyok, KPA Air Force commander, Lieutenant General Om Ju Ho, political commissar, and other military and political officers of the Air Force Command with deepest respect.

There took place a march - past of the guard of honor of the KPA Air Force.

Guided by the commander of the Air Force, Kim Jong Un went round the operation command post and the room for study of operational plan.

After receiving a report on the enemy situation and the operational plan of the air force from the Air Force commander, he learned in detail about the operation command and the IT - based situation management.

Highly appreciating the fact that the Air Force Command has put the management of enemy situation and command system on an IT and modern basis on a high level, he stressed the need for the Air Force to continuously take the lead in modernizing the operational command system as befitting the core service of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK with the richest experience of real war and strong fighting efficiency.

He set forth operational and tactical policies arising in putting the Air Force on a regular combat posture and increasing its capabilities to fight a war to the full so as to counter any military provocation and threat of the enemy immediately and powerfully.

After looking round the operation command post and the room for study of operational plan, Kim Jong Un had a significant photo session with the service personnel of the Air Force Command of the KPA on the occasion of the Day of Airmen.

When he appeared at the venue of photo session, all the service personnel raised cheers of excitement, looking up to the great brilliant commander, the tender-hearted father who always keeps the airmen nearest his mind and shows all sorts of love and privileges for them and encouraged the Air Force so that it could demonstrate its might as matchless service defending the Party and the revolution.

He extended warm greetings to the enthusiastically cheering service personnel of the Air Force and warmly congratulated them on the holiday of the Juche - oriented Air Force which performed heroic feats shining with victory and glory on the route of defending the country along with the long history of the great Workers' Party of Korea.

He expressed firm belief that all the airpersons, commanding officers and service personnel of the heroic KPA Air Force would continue to make a tangible contribution to impregnably defending the clear sky of the country and ushering in a new era of greater glory and prosperity for our state and people by carrying forward the proud history and tradition of victory which they have been remained absolutely faithful to the Party and the revolution.

When the photo session was over, the loud cheers of *'Kim Jong Un'* and *'Devoted defence'* shouted by the service personnel of the Air Force reverberated to the sky of November to reflect their firm pledge to become a fortress and shield of the sky remaining absolutely loyal to the idea and leadership of Kim Jong Un and devotedly defending the territorial air of the country to firmly guarantee the prosperity and development of our socialist state.

Kim Jong Un paid a congratulatory visit to a regiment of the First Division of the KPA Air Force on the Thursday afternoon.

When he arrived at the unit together with his beloved daughter, all the airpersons and servicepersons of the Air Force broke into stormy cheers full of excitement and joy of receiving the greatest glory and happiness.
A division ceremony of greeting him took place.

He was greeted by leading commanding officers of the KPA Air Force.

He warmly blessed the bright future of the people's air force after having photo sessions with airpersons and other servicepersons of the unit and major commanding officers of the Air Force in commemoration of the Day of Airmen to be handed down to the history of the army building.

Then he mounted an observation post to watch a demonstration flight of airpersons.

Enjoying the great pleasure of making a flight in the presence of him on the significant founding holiday of the people's Air Force, airpersons fully demonstrated the invincible might of the flying corps of Kim Jong Un.

Whenever the airpersons presented various combat and mobile aeronautics with brave and flexible control, he warmly acknowledged and encouraged them.

Highly appreciating the fact that the airpersons of the unit have been fully prepared to perfectly carry out their air combat missions under any unfavorable situation, he said it is a great pride of the Party and the state to have such airpersons who cherish the spirit of devotedly serving the Party and revolution, the country and the people as their lifeline and noble duty.

He summoned the airpersons who took part in the drill and had a significant photo session with them.

The airpersons, who received his deep love and trust, made a firm pledge to more fully prepare themselves to be the phoenix of the sky, the red hawk of the Workers' Party, which fly only over the route of defending the country and the revolution, with their destiny linked to the yard to the Party Central Committee.

Then, Kim Jong Un watched a volleyball game between the Air Force team and the Navy team held on the occasion of the Day of Airmen.

The gymnasium was full of joy and optimism of the players who were to play a significant sports game and cheering persons in the presence of the Supreme Commander whom they had yearned for so much.

The air force team beat the navy team 3:0 in the fierce game, amid the stubborn spirit of the players to defend the honor of services and enthusiastic cheering.

Kim Jong Un enjoyed a performance given by the Song and Dance Ensemble of the KPA Air Force on the occasion of the Day of Airmen at the hall of culture of the unit. Put on the stage of the performance were chorus, mixed chorus, instrumental ensemble, mixed group dance and other colorful numbers. The performers vividly represented the firm will of all the service personnel of the air force to achieve only victory, braving any clouds and flames to defend Kim Jong Un, the sun of the destiny of the airpersons and the linage of Paektu.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience as it hardened the unshakable faith that there is no such a blessed life as our airpersons who are living under the care of the great brilliant commander and that eternal victory and glory lie in flying along the route indicated by the Party Central Committee.

Kim Jong Un expressed great satisfaction, appreciating that the artistes of the Air Force Song and Dance Ensemble impressively represented the high ideological and spiritual world of the airpersons with excellent artistry.

It is the logic of power, justice and philosophy of our Party that even an egg, when charged with ideology, can break a rock, he said, adding that victory or failure in the fight depend on for what and with what idea one fights, not on the combat data of weapons and equipment. He noted that no matter how the enemy boasts of its technical superiority, it can not overpower the political and ideological advantages of our airpersons.

Saying that all the airpersons should be fully prepared to be reliable phoenixes of the WPK and the strongest ones in mental power with indomitable revolutionary faith who inherit only the route of loyalty and victory, cherishing the trust and expectation of the Party, the country and the people despite any ordeals, he expressed deep belief that all the service personnel would in the future, too, fully demonstrate the mightiness of the heroic people's air force and firmly guarantee the cause of the Party and the building of the ideal society of the people with invincible power.

Extending their gratitude to Kim Jong Un who significantly celebrated the Day of Airmen with the service personnel of the air force and opened up a new bright period of the development of the air force, all the participants made a firm pledge to fully demonstrate the militant spirit of the great air force Kim Jong Un in thoroughly implementing the idea and line of building the air force in the new era clarified by the Party Central Committee.

Kim Jong Un gave a banquet in the evening of November 30 in celebration of the Day of Airmen.

Present there on invitation were General Kim Kwang Hyok, commander of the KPA Air Force, Lieutenant General Om Ju Ho, political commissar, and other military and political commanding officers of the Air Force Command, division and brigade

commanders, political commissars, regimental commanders, battalion commanders and airpersons.

KPA Marshal Pak Jong Chon, KPA Vice Marshal Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff, and cadres of the WPK Central Committee attended the significant banquet.

Pak Jong Chon made a speech at the banquet.

The venue of the banquet was replete with impressive scenes showing kindred ties between the great brilliant commander and the bodyguards in the sacred journey for opening up the greatest heyday of bolstering up the air force in the new era of the Juche revolution.

(Pyongyang, December 1
Korean Central News Agency)

69th Candlelight Rally and Demo, Held in Region of South Korean Puppets

Public resistance is unabated across the region of south Korean puppets to oust traitor Yoon Suk Yeol from power at any cost as he escalates the danger of a nuclear war, pursuant to outsiders' policy, and mercilessly tramples down the right to existence of the people through murderous misrule.

82 civic and public organizations, including the *'headquarters of the all - people movement for the impeachment of Yoon Suk Yeol'*, the People's Action, the Emergency Situation Council and the Confederation of Trade Unions, formed emergency action to further intensify the public candlelight campaign demanding the resignation of traitor Yoon.

People from all walks of life, including workers, peasants, youth and students and religionists, have turned out in the struggle.

Demonstrators chanted such slogans *as 'Let us preserve peace by booting Yoon out of power!', 'We disapprove of Yoon's exercise of veto in disregard of public mindset!'* and *'Let us drum Yoon out of presidency!'*.

Organizations of various circles in Seoul, Pusan, Ulsan, Jeju and other parts of the region held rallies on Dec. 16 to declare the intensified struggle for ousting traitor Yoon from power.

Speakers there called for pooling all people's strength to oust incompetent Yoon following foreign forces, bring down his dictatorship backed by the prosecution, protect the people's livelihood and build true human society.

The 69th candlelight rally and demonstration took place in Seoul on the same day.

Despite the biting cold, many citizens took part in the demonstration to give vent to their anger at traitor Yoon and his wife and declared their will to bring the spring of impeaching the traitor in 2024 at any cost.

A co - representative of the candlelight action and other participants in the campaign accused Yoon's group of kowtowing to the U.S. and Japan, exposing people to the danger of war, spoiling diplomacy and deteriorating the people's living.

Representatives of the Ansan candlelight action, the Puan candlelight action and

the Puchon candlelight action jointly read out a resolution of struggle.

The resolution said that people of all social standings would get united closely to form a vast sea of candlelight for the impeachment of Yoon.

Then the participants marched, chanting slogans calling for impeaching swindler Yoon, dissolving his party *'People's Power'*, descendant of military gangster Chun Doo Hwan, and making a special inspection of Kim Kon Hui, special - class criminal.

(Pyongyang, December 22
Korean Central News Agency)

68th Grand Candlelight March, Held in Region of South Korea Puppets

In the whole region of south Korean puppets, the struggle of people from all walks of life to impeach traitor Yoon Suk Yeol at any cost is getting fiercer day by day as he is escalating the tensions on the Korean peninsula and driving the people to death through irregularities, corruption, murderous misrule and fascist dictatorial rule, while running amuck to unleash a nuclear war as a stooge and war shock brigade of outsiders.

A campaign to put up large wall papers calling for turning out in the massive action for the impeachment of Yoon with candles in hands has been launched at all universities of the region.

The large wall papters read: *'Not war, but peace! With candles for the impeachment of Yoon!'*, *'Abrogation of the September 19 military agreement! Escalation of war crisis! Let us impeach Yoon Suk Yeol igniting war!'*, *'Let us oust war maniac Yoon Suk Yeol!'*.

A touch - and - go situation is prevailing in the Korean peninsula due to the mounting war crisis, even the outbreak of war tomorrow is not strange and it is because Yoon is crying out for war every day, the large wall papers said.

Members of political parties and civic and public organizations in South Chungchong Province held an anti - U.S. rally in Kongju of the province where they called for preventing a nuclear war through the struggle for opposing war moves, withdrawing the U.S. forces and ousting traitor Yoon.

Members of organizations in Seoul declared an indefinite emergency action against the war moves of traitor Yoon, and are staging a 24 - hour demo outside his house, chanting the slogans *'Impeachment is peace!'* and *'The order of candlelight is impeachment of Yoon Suk Yeol!'*.

In Seoul on December 9, there was the 68th grand candlelight march before the slogans reading: *'Conduct a special investigation of special class criminal Kim Kon*

Hui of the world - famous product bribery scandal!', 'Oust Yoon Suk Yeol! Carry out a special investigation of Kim Kon Hui!'.

At a rally held near Yoon's house, speakers said that more facts that the bribery of Kim Kon Hui, a wife of Yoon, was not committed yesterday or today, but that it is a habitual one are being disclosed, adding that the puppet minister of Justice and the puppet chief prosecutor should be impeached for doing an unfair investigation.

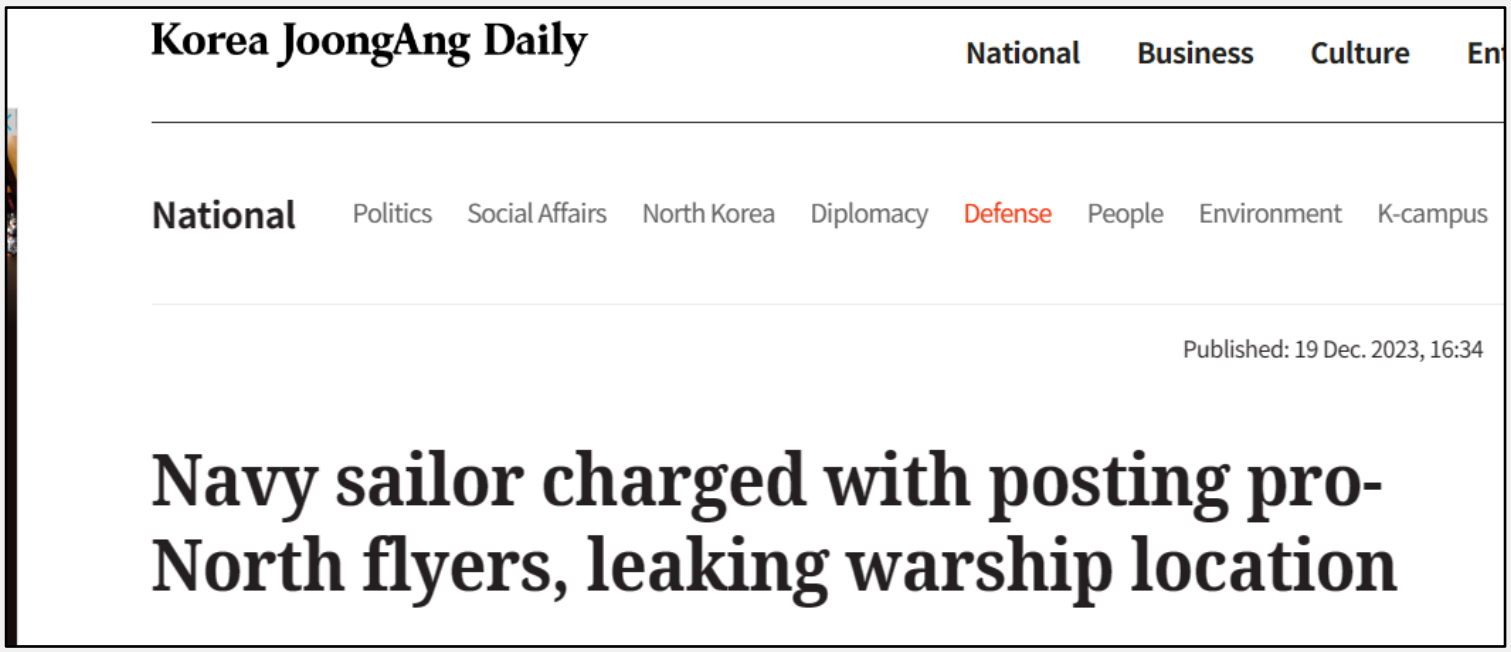
The participants conducted a symbolic ceremony of tearing up a placard reading *'Kim Kon Hui giving and receiving bribes'* and marched towards the puppet presidential office, putting up the posters reading: *'Let us fight with impeachment'* and *'Let us oust prosecution dictator Yun Tu Gwang! Open the spring of impeachment!'*.

A candlelight action was staged in Pusan under the sponsorship of the Pusan Headquarters of the Movement for Ousting Yoon Suk Yeol.

Meanwhile, organizations, including the Confederation of Trade Unions and the People's Action, expressed their will to expand the scope of the struggle for judging Yoon in solidarity with civic and public organizations, noting that Yoon's murderous suppression of trade unions pushed workers to death.

(Pyongyang, December 12
Korean Central News Agency)

South Korea arrests navy sailor on charges, of supporting the Democratic People's Republic of Korea !


Korea JoongAng Daily

National Business Culture En

National Politics Social Affairs North Korea Diplomacy Defense People Environment K-campus

Published: 19 Dec. 2023, 16:34

Navy sailor charged with posting pro-North flyers, leaking warship location

Various media outlets including the south Korea puppet *'Korea Times'* and the *'Korea Joong Ang Daily'* have reported that a south Korean puppet navy sailor, a second class petty officer, has been indicted by south Korean military prosecutors on charges of *'posting flyers praising Kim Il Sung, the late founder of the North*

Korean regime, in the stalls of bathrooms in his barracks' as well as *'the regime's Juche ideology, commonly interpreted as advocating the regime's self - reliance'*.

The south Korean puppet media admit that: *'Under the National Security Act, South Koreans are banned from praising the North. The maximum sentence for violations is seven years' imprisonment'*.

This case follows an earlier case in which an elderly south Korean was jailed for supporting People's Korea and the Juche idea.

Both cases show that there is support for the DPRK in south Korea and also that south Korea is a fascist dictatorship. This is the reality of the so - called *'liberal human rights paradise'* praised by the mainstream media and the imperialists.

(Dr Dermot Hudson, Deputy Editor / Reviewer 'PKT',
General Chairman KFA UK)

67th Candlelight Rally and Demo, Held in Region of South Korean Puppets

The 67th candlelight rally and demonstration took place in Seoul on December 2 in order to push for the resignation of traitor Yoon Suk Yeol against a backdrop of the dynamic massive struggle which is being staged in the whole region of south Korean puppets to condemn the U.S. for planning a nuclear war on the Korean Peninsula and to oust Yoon who is fooling the people and bringing them only misfortune and disgrace as a war shock brigade and puppet of his master.

A lot of people, including workers, peasants, poor people, students and religionists, were attending the rally held on the theme of *'Let us impeach imposter Yoon Suk Yeol for wasteful use of taxes collected from people and bringing disgrace to the people'*.

The participants in the rally denounced the anti - peace actions of the U.S. and traitor Yoon, carrying large placards and posters reading *'Let us impeach and have a general election!'*, *'Impeachment is peace'* and *'The people demand the impeachment of Yoon Suk Yeol'*.

Then the participants marched, chanting slogans *'Impeachment is peace. Let us impeach Yoon Suk Yeol!'* and *'Let us impeach Yoon Suk Yeol through all - people resistance!'*.

Meanwhile, civic and public organizations of various circles, including the Sovereignty Solidarity and the Progressive Federation of Students, declared through statements, written protests, press conferences and rallies that they would stage to the last the action to oust Yoon, who is flattering and yielding to foreign forces and bringing the danger of a nuclear war.

According to media in the region of south Korean puppets, in all the struggle venues, people are calling for putting an early end to the U.S. massacres and war for co - existence and peace, and people from all walks of life, including workers, peasants, youth, students, civic organizations, and progressive political parties, continue waging the struggle for the resignation of Yoon who is running amuck to unleash a nuclear war with the backing of the U.S. and Japan.

(Pyongyang, December 5
Korean Central News Agency)

66th candlelit vigil held

The 66th candlelight rally was held in Seoul amid the growing anger of the south Koreans of every degree at traitor Yoon Suk - yeol who has been obsessed with pro-US and pro - Japanese sycophancy and nuclear war provocation against north Korea.

At the rally on the theme of *'Secure peace with impeachment of Yoon!'* the participants denounced Yoon as an enemy to all the people posing a threat to the existence of the people by strengthening the nuclear war alliance with the U.S. and Japan.

They carried out the parade chanting slogans *'Impeachment is peace! let us oust Yoon Suk - yeol inviting a war!'*, *'Let us dethrone Yoon who is hell - bent on war*

moves scraping the south - north agreement!', 'Impeach Yoon gagging the press in a bid to build up opinion in favor of himself!', 'Let us overthrow the Yoon clique impoverishing the people's livelihood and making a luxury overseas travel!', 'Purge Yoon of his office, putting a pressure upon the investigation into the Marine corps!', 'Impeach Yoon, an accomplice conniving at Japan's discharge of nuclear waste water!', 'Drag down Yoon who approved the illegal road - building program abusing governance from the presidency!', 'Impeach Yoon denying the judgment on the forced labor!', and *'Let us remove Yoon from power through a nationwide campaign!'*.

The candlelight action was an *'undying candle cudgel'* showing the people's cloud - kissing indignation at war maniac Yoon.

(Pyongyang Mission,
of the Anti - Imperialist National Democratic Front of south Korea)

LIFE AND CULTURE in PEOPLES KOREA

A Table Tennis Player with Disabilities

Kim Yong Rok playing in a match with a racket fixed on his arm

A member of the Korean Sports Association of the Disabled, Kim Yong Rok, is a table tennis player with disabilities.

At 12, he lost both of his forearms in an accident. Though physically handicapped, he did not give up his dream of becoming a sportsman.

Kim Yong Rok (fifth from the right) has won one gold and one bronze at the ITTF Para Table Tennis Bangkok Open 2019.

Back in 2014, he began to play table tennis.

His tireless efforts bore fruit - a gold medal in the disabled men's singles at the 2016 national table tennis competition of persons with disabilities and amateurs; one silver at the 3rd Asian Paralympics in 2018 in Indonesia; two golds and one bronze at the ITTF Asian Para Championships 2019 and the ITTF Para Table Tennis Bangkok Open 2019; one gold at the Tournament of Persons with Disabilities and Amateurs - 2023.

Seeing the boy training hard with a racket fixed on his arm, people call him an iron - willed man.

Kim Yong Rok standing on the winners' podium at the Tournament of Persons with Disabilities and Amateurs - 2023

(Korean Publications Exchange Association)

I Love You

On December 3, to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, an art group of the Korea Art Association of Persons with Disabilities gave a performance titled *'I Love You'* in Pyongyang, capital city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The performers showed how much they love their country and its benevolent socialist system.

The performers wave back to the applauding audiences.

The performers sing of how benevolent their country's socialist system is.

(Korean Publications Exchange Association)

Sublimest Jongil Peak

Jongil Peak is standing on the crest of Mt. Paektu, a celebrated mountain of Korea.

Jongil Peak with clouds on its waist is standing imposingly, wrapping the old home in the Paektusan Secret Camp. Its spectacular view is the best. Jongil Peak is beautiful, mysterious and sublimest.

In front of the peak is the old home of the great leader Kim Jong Il. Seen from the old home in the Paektusan Secret Camp are the letters *'Jongil Peak'* inscribed in reflection of the unanimous aspiration and desire of the Korean people to tell his undying achievements to posterity for all ages.

Jongil Peak was formed at the time of the eruption of volcano of the Paektu. It is 1,798 metres above the sea level. It looks magnificent and singular.

The northern ridge is linked to a neighbouring peak and the southern slope is about 100 - metre - high precipice.

Diverse fauna and flora of Jongil Peak add beauty to the peak.

More than 300 kinds of plants are found in the area of Jongil Peak.

Abies nephrolepis, spruce and Picea Koraiensis grow thick and evergreen around the Jongil Peak. Azalea, mountain ash, alder and other plants grow around the precipice inscribed with the letters *'Jongil Peak'*. In spring flowers bloom beautifully and in autumn the peak is tinged with red, presenting a fascinating view.

Living in the area of Jongil Peak are one hundred and tens of kinds of winged animals and tens of kinds of wild animals such as bear, wild boar, roe deer and hedgehog. In autumn wild ducks fly by the Sobaek Stream meandering the Jongil Peak.

Jongil Peak is spectacular and mysterious in the blizzards of winter.

(Voice of Korea)

Seven - Storied Pagoda from Hyonhwa Temple

Seven - storied pagoda from the Hyonhwa Temple, now at the Koryo Museum

At the Koryo Museum, situated in Kaesong in the central part of Korea, there is a seven-storied pagoda which was moved from the Hyonhwa Temple built in the period of Koryo (918 - 1392) well - known to the world as the first unified state in Korea.

The pagoda was built in 1020 at a temple called Hyonhwa, and later it was moved to the Koryo Museum.

The 8.64 - metre - high pagoda consists of a pedestal, each side of which is 3.9 metres long, seven - storied body and head.

The pagoda is one of the comparatively big ones of its kind in the days of Koryo.

Three columns stand on each side of the pedestal, and the sides were filled with five layers of fine brick - like stones. The columns are topped by stone slabs. Such pedestal formation is rare to be seen in the pagodas of old.

Also unique is that the eaves and corner columns of each storey are finished to be curved.

The Buddhist images embossed on every storey of the body are refined and excellent in sculptural skills.

The pagoda, for its large scale, bold techniques, elaborate details and the balance between the whole and its parts, is a precious national treasure, which showcases the techniques and development of pagoda building of the Korean people.

(Korean Publications Exchange Association)

Unryul Mask Dance

The local people go for mask dance with hand props and costumes on holidays and off - days.

The Korean nation, with a 5 000 - year history and brilliant culture, bequeathed many pieces of national cultural heritage, and one of them is the Unryul Mask Dance, which was created in the area of Unryul County, South Hwanghae Province in the western part of Korea. It is one of the representative mask dances, along with Pongsan and Kangnyong mask dances, which were created in the areas of North and South Hwanghae provinces. It is characteristic in that it not only reflects the life sentiments and aspirations of the local people but also is diverse in its form and rich in its movements.

A scene from the Unryul Mask Dance

The folk dances including the Unryul Mask Dance are played among the local people thanks to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state on the conservation of national cultural heritage.

Diverse and rich movements of the Unryul Mask Dance

(Korean Publications Exchange Association)

CLASSIC WORKS

OF THE GREAT KOREAN LEADERS

Kim IL SUNG

'With The Century'

'The Anti - Japanese Revolution'

(April 1912 - June 1926)

Chapter 5 - 'People in Arms'

part 37

' The Birth of a New Armed Force'

The spring of 1932 was turbulent with events that shook the world. After occupying Manchuria the Japanese imperialists rigged up the puppet Kingdom of Manchukuo through the reinstatement of Pu Yi, the last Qing Emperor who had been dethroned by the nationalist revolution led by Sun Yat-sen. The Japanese government - patronized mass media and the Chinese and Manchurian pro - Japanese publications chanted their praise of the kindgom, clamouring about the "concord of five nations" and the building of a "paradise of righteous government," whereas the progressive people of Asia and the rest of the world strongly denounced it.

The world's attention was focussed on the activities of the fact - finding commission from the League of Nations which had just arrived in Japan on a mission to investigate the cause of the outbreak of the September 18 incident and the responsibility for the incident. The commission headed by Lytton, an adviser to the British Privy Council, and consisting of delegates from such great powers as the United States, Germany, France and Italy was received in audience by the Emperor of Japan and met the Japanese Prime Minister, the Minister of the Army and the Minister of Foreign Affairs; it proceeded to China to hold talks with Jiang Jie - shi and Zhang Xue - liang, and then appeared in Manchuria where it met Lieutenant - General Honjo, the commander of the Kwantung Army, and inspected the area where the September 18 incident had occurred. Japan and China vied with each other in welcoming and entertaining the Lytton commission in order to win its support. The conjecture that Japan might withdraw her troops from Manchuria if the commission disclosed the true facts and the League of Nations exerted its influence, was widespread not only in political, public and news circles but also among primary school pupils and old men in the rural villages, who had become interested in politics. But we who were in the Antu area preparing for the armed struggle did not listen to the rumours and conjectures; we were applying ourselves to military training, with the Women's Association of Xiaoshahe bringing our lunch in large wooden vessels to the tableland near Tuqidian every day.

In the middle of March we organized in Antu a short training course for the leaders of the small guerrilla units in several of the counties of east Manchuria. Nearly 20 leaders gathered in Tuqidian, Xiaoshahe.

The training course lasted for two days - theoretical lectures on the first day and drill on the second day. I gave a lecture on the lines and policies of the Korean revolution in the political class and on the regulations and code of conduct for the guerrillas. Military drill was mostly supervised by Pak Hun. We started with the basics of formation drill and the disassembly and assembly of weapons, and then dealt with such tactical matters as raids and ambushes.

Antu became the headquarters of the Korean communists who were forming the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army. Political workers and messengers from several counties along the River Tuman often came to Xiaoshahe to make contact with us. The news of our activities to form the guerrilla army in Antu spread from mouth to

mouth as far as the homeland. On hearing the news, young patriots in their early twenties from Korea and various parts of Manchuria flocked to Antu, at the risk of their lives, to volunteer for the guerrilla army.

At this time Pyon Tal Hwan and 8 young volunteers were arrested and imprisoned by the Japanese military police on their way to Antu from Wujiazi. Pyon Tae U came to see me after liberation to express his sorrow that his son had been unable to join the army and had wasted several years behind bars. Many people came, particularly from Yanji County in Jiandao. The enemy's ruling organs and repressive machines were concentrated in the Yanji area and its network of secret agents was developed. The Jiandao task force under the command of Colonel Ikeda, which consisted of the 75th Regiment, 38th Brigade and Ranam 19th Division, and was reinforced with artillery, engineers and a signal corps, crossed the River Tuman and marched into Yanji and other parts of Jiandao for a "mop-up" operation in east Manchuria. In this situation the underground organizations in the area sent to Antu many young people who had volunteered for the army. On hearing the news, even people without any recommendation from such organizations came to us in large numbers. Chen Han-zhang came from Dunhua, bringing with him a young Chinese man, Hu Jin-min (Hu Ze-min). Hu had been a teacher at a normal school in Belong. Sometimes young people came in dozens at a time.

But the Chinese national salvation army units often captured them on their way to us and killed them in groups.

At that time there were various Chinese nationalist anti-Japanese units in the northeastern region of China, such as the Northeast Self - Defence Army, the Anti-Jilin Army, the Anti - Japanese National Salvation Army, the Anti - Japanese Volunteers' Army, the Mountain Rebels, the Broad Sword Society, the Red Spear Society and so on. These nationalist armed units comprised patriotic soldiers who had broken away from the former Northeast Army to march under the banner of anti-Japanese national salvation after Japan's occupation of Manchuria, as well as Chinese government officials and peasants. These units together were known as the national salvation army.

Well - known among these units in Manchuria were those led by Wang De - lin, Tang Ju - wu, Wang Feng - ge, Su Bing - wen, Ma Zhan - shan. Ding Chao and Li Du.

The largest one in east Manchuria was Wang De - lin's unit. Wang had in his younger days been an insurgent, as "a heroic man in the green forest," in the forests around Muling and Suifenhe, holding no principles or views, before being assigned with his followers to the Jilin army under the command of Zhang Zuo - xiang. There he became an officer in the regular army. He had served as the commander of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Regiment, 3rd Brigade of the former Jilin army before the September 18 incident. People called his unit the "Former 3rd Battalion."

After Japan's occupation of Manchuria his senior officer. Brigade Commander Ji Xing, had surrendered and met the commander of the Kwantung Army. After pledging

his allegiance to the Empire of Japan, he was appointed Jilin garrison commander. Indignant at the betrayal by his senior officer, Wang immediately revolted and proclaimed the anti - Japanese national salvation struggle. He took 500 of his soldiers to the mountains and, after organizing the national salvation army, appointed Wu Yi - cheng as the forward area commander and started his resistance against the Japanese imperialist aggressor army.

Wang De - lin's faithful subordinates Wu Yi - cheng, Shi Zhong - heng, Chai Shi - rong and Kong Xian - yong, operating in the Luozigou area, contained the enemy in Jiandao and, in later years, established blood - sealed ties with our guerrilla army.

In the mountainous areas of south Manchuria the Self - Defence Army led by Tang Ju - wu was operating, and in Heilongjiang Province, Ma Zhan - shan's unit was resisting against the Japanese army which was advancing northwards. The unit of Commander Yu under the command of Wu Yi - cheng crowded into the backwoods around Antu. This unit was extremely reckless.

They all regarded the Korean communists as stooges of the Japanese imperialists and the Korean people as having guided the Japanese army of aggression into Manchuria. They were prejudiced against the Korean people partly because the Japanese imperialists continued to drive a wedge between the Chinese and Korean peoples, and partly because the bad impression the Chinese people had received of the Korean people from the May 30 Uprising and the Wanbaoshan incident was still vivid in their memory.

The die - hard upper stratum of the national salvation army lacked political judgement and insight with which to understand that both the Korean and Chinese nations were suffering the same disaster and misfortune because of the Japanese imperialist aggressors, that the Korean people could not be the cat's paws of the Japanese just as the Chinese people could not, and that the Korean people could not be the enemy of the Chinese people just as the Chinese people could not be the enemy of the Korean people. They were blindly hostile to communism because they came mostly from the propertied class. They concocted their own equation that the Korean people were communists, communists were factionalists, and factionalists were the running dogs of the Japanese imperialists and, based on this equation, persecuted and ruthlessly killed young Korean people.

In the cities and lowlands the Japanese troops of aggression were running wild, and in the rural and mountainous areas which had not yet been occupied by the Japanese army tens of thousands of Chinese nationalist soldiers occupied vantage points to bottle us up. Their hostile acts were a serious obstacle threatening the very existence of our young guerrilla army.

Since the Japanese imperialists, the Chinese mountain rebels and the Korean Independence Army were all opposed to the Korean communists, we had seemed to have the world against us.

Without improving our relations with the Chinese nationalist anti - Japanese units, it was impossible for our guerrilla army to survive and operate as a legitimate force. And without making itself legitimate it was impossible for it to increase its ranks and operate in daylight.

As our organized unit was not legitimate, we were as good as confined in a back room. In such circumstances it was impossible to see the light. We merely lamented, saying, "How can we fight the Japanese by fumbling with Mauser rifles in civilian clothes in the back rooms of others' houses?" Worse still, we could hide only in Korean settlements; we could not go to other places and had to move about in groups surreptitiously and only by night.

That was why we called the guerrilla army a secret guerrilla army in its early days. In those days we had to keep away from not only the Japanese army but also the remnants of the Chinese nationalist anti - Japanese units and the army of Manchuria; we also had to guard against some of the Korean nationalists and reactionary elements. As we were fired at and persecuted in public on the ground that we were communists, we really had a headache. The same was the situation in Yanji, Helong, Wangqing, and Hunchun.

Nevertheless, we could not stay only at the houses of communists, As they were living in poverty, they would become even worse off if we stayed in dozens at their houses, eating their grain; this, too, was a problem.

If things were to improve and if we were to fight in high spirits, it was imperative for us to make the guerrilla army legitimate so that we could march in broad daylight, singing, welcomed by the masses and conducting propaganda. It was painful for us not to be able to do so.

Whenever we got together, we discussed over and over again how we should make our guerrilla army legitimate and how we should improve our relations with the Chinese nationalist army. The most serious issue was whether it was right to join hands with the nationalists of China. Several comrades doubted the validity of an alliance with them, considering that it would mean giving up our class principles and compromising with them, given the fact that their upper stratum came from the propertied class and that their army represented the interests of landlords, capitalists and bureaucrats. These comrades insisted that, even though we might improve our relations with them on a temporary basis, we could never enter into an alliance with them, and that we should overcome their hostile acts by force of arms.

This was an extremely dangerous opinion. We maintained that we should not only improve our relations with them but also form a united front with them because we firmly believed that these units, in spite of their various limitations, could become our strategic ally in the anti - Japanese war as we shared common fighting objectives and a similar situation. The question on an allied front of two armed forces with conflicting ideologies and ideals was extremely controversial when it was raised for the first time in those days.

Forming a common front with those units was also a serious question facing the Communist Party of China. From the early days its east Manchuria special district committee had been interested in Wang De - lin's unit and sent seven or eight excellent communists there to conduct work with the unit. We sent Ri Kwang and some other Korean communists to the national salvation army units. On several occasions I received through liaison officers reports on the painstaking efforts of Ri Kwang, who had been sent to Tong Shan - hao's unit.

As their hostile acts became more and more outrageous, our comrades said that the allied front was an idle fancy and that we should return fire and avenge the people who had been killed by them. I made a lot of effort to restrain them. Making them our enemy and paying them back was inconsistent with our great anti - Japanese cause and moral duty and was imprudent enough to invite the destruction of our young guerrilla army.

The communists and guerrillas not only in Jiandao but also in the whole of Manchuria racked their brains over the Chinese nationalist armed units. The guerrilla units in the various counties at that time were small in size; there were only a few dozen guerrillas in each county. They were in danger of being annihilated if captured by the Chinese nationalist units, so they could not expand their ranks even if they wanted to.

In the light of this I wondered if it would not be a good idea for our guerrillas to join Commander Yu's unit and operate as a special detachment of it for a period. I presumed that if we joined Commander Yu's unit, we would be safe under the flag of the Chinese national salvation army and could obtain some weapons and, that if we had a proper influence on them, we could make the soldiers communists and reliable allies. I put this idea to my comrades to be debated.

We had a day - long meeting on this question at Kim Jong Ryong's house in Xiaoshahe, where the headquarters of the party organization was situated. It is now called the Xiaoshahe Meeting. The atmosphere at the meeting was very heated. We debated from morning till late at night until our throats were sore on the question of whether it was possible and favourable for us to operate as a special detachment of the Chinese national salvation army. Not only the heavy smokers but also those who were non - smokers puffed hand - rolled cigarettes continually. I still remember how my eyes smarted in the oppressive atmosphere. I was a non-smoker.

Finally my idea gained the support of my comrades. The meeting decided to dispatch a delegate to Commander Yu's unit to negotiate with the Chinese national salvation army unit, and I was singled out as the most suitable person for the job. To be more precise, I volunteered, rather than being chosen by my comrades.

None of us had any experience of military diplomacy. So the question of who should go on the mission was taken very seriously. None of us was sure whether or not the Chinese would agree, whether or not they would baffle us by making preposterous

proposals at the negotiations or whether or not they would shoot our delegate if the worst came to the worst. We were all of the opinion that someone who was prepared for all these eventualities should go.

But none of us was right for the task. An elderly man was needed to deal with Commander Yu and we had Pak Hun, Kim Il Ryong and Hu Jin - min as such. Kim Il Ryong was more than 10 years older than me, but he did not speak Chinese well. The rest of us were between eighteen and twenty years old and had, like Cao Ya - fan, recently left school.

I suggested that I should go, but they objected. They said that I, their commander, must not risk myself when Commander Yu might kill me because I was a communist, and that any of the Chinese comrades, Chen Han - zhang, Cao Ya - fan or Hu Jin - min who was diplomatic should be sent.

When I asked them why Commander Yu would kill me, they said, "How do you know he won't kill you? If they curse you as a 'gaolibangzi' (a Chinese derogatory term for the Koreans - Tr.) and shoot you when you are there, that'll be the end of you. They kill anyone, so why shouldn't they kill you? They say that the Chinese are more vigilant against young Koreans nowadays after the incident of the Guan Corps in Wangqing. So you must not go."

The secret guerrilla army in Wangqing led by Comrade Ri Kwang had disarmed a national salvation army unit called the Guan Corps. This was known as the Guan Corps incident. This incident further aggravated our relations with the Chinese units and created a more unfavourable situation for the activities of our guerrilla army. A messenger from Wangqing reported that, after the incident, the Chinese soldiers in his area had captured several of our guerrillas as retaliation and killed them. It was around this time that Comrade Kim Chaek had been arrested by the Chinese mountain rebels in north Manchuria and had only narrowly escaped execution.

Nevertheless, I insisted on my going to negotiate. I did not insist because I would be more skilful than others in dealing with them or because I had any particular means to force Commander Yu to yield. It was a brutal fact that the existence of our guerrilla army depended on negotiating successfully with Commander Yu, that the success of our activities depended on improving our relations with the national salvation army, and that without making them our allies, it would be impossible for us to go outdoors, let alone launch a guerrilla war in east Manchuria. I thought that unless we overcame the crisis and started the armed struggle I, as a Korean man, would have no reason to live.

I persuaded my comrades by saying that a man who was afraid of death could not fight for the revolution, that I could speak fluent Chinese, that I had experienced many trials in the days of the youth movement, that I would be perfectly able to deal with Commander Yu and that, therefore, I must go. Then I left with Pak Hun, Chen Han - zhang, Hu Jin - min and another young Chinese man to negotiate with Commander Yu, without any guarantee for our personal safety.

The headquarters of Commander Yu's unit was situated in Liangjiangkou. We promised to say that we were from Jilin, not from Antu, when asked by the unit's soldiers where we were from. It was not to our advantage to name the place in east Manchuria where our guerrilla army was stationed.

On our way to Dashahe we came across Commander Yu's unit. Hundreds of soldiers were marching in a stately manner, carrying a standard on which was written "Commander Yu," as in the Three Warring Kingdoms. As they had already defeated the Japanese army at Nanhutou and even captured some machine guns, their reputation was running high.

"Why don't we try to avoid them?" Hu asked me, with an uneasy look.

"No. Let's carry on," I said, walking on. The other four kept in step with mine, walking at my side. The moment they saw us, the soldiers shouted, "Gaolibangzi, come on!" They tried to arrest us there and then. I asked them in Chinese why they were arresting us who were fighting against the Japanese as they were. They asked in return if we were not Koreans. I answered proudly that I was a Korean and, pointing at Chen and Hu, said that they were Chinese.

"We are going to see your commander to discuss something urgent with him. Take us to your commander," I said with dignity.

They cowered and told us to follow them. After we had followed them for a short distance, a man in the uniform of an officer of the former Northeast Army ordered the men to take lunch, and detained us in a farmhouse. To my surprise Liu Ben - cao, a teacher of mine at Jilin Yuwen Middle School, entered the house. He had taught Chinese at Yuwen Middle School for a while and later at Wenguang Middle School and Dunhua Middle School. He had been on friendly terms with Mr. Shang Yue and knew Chen Han - zhang well. As he had been good - natured and had a wide knowledge, and moreover introduced many excellent books and enjoyed reading to the students the good poems he had written, we had admired him and respected him highly.

As soon as we recognized him, Chen and I hailed him. In that adverse situation, we were delighted to see him.

Without concealing his delight and surprise, he asked us one question after another, "Why are you here, Kim Song Ju? What have you come here for? Where were you going and why are you being detained?"

After I had given him a short explanation, he ordered the men in a loud voice, "Be polite to these people. I will take my lunch here with them. Serve us a good lunch." Later I learned that he had given up teaching when the Japanese army invaded Manchuria, and had joined Commander Yu's unit. He was chief of staff of that unit.

While having lunch with us, Liu said that he had put on the military uniform because he could not bear to see the country being ruined, but it was extremely difficult for him to fight alongside ignorant soldiers. He then asked us to work with him. We agreed and asked him to help us to see Commander Yu. He replied that the commander was on his way to the Antu county town from Liangjiangkou and that we could see him if we followed him.

"Sir, we would like to organize an armed unit of Koreans," I said. "As you know we Koreans hate the Japanese imperialists more bitterly than the Chinese do. So why are the Chinese nationalist soldiers against the Koreans' fighting the Japanese? Why do they persecute Koreans and kill them?"

"I know! I tell them not to do it, but they won't listen to me. These ignoramuses do not even know what kind of people communists are. What is wrong with the communists fighting against the Japanese imperialists?"

Liu Ben - cao was indignant, too. I was inwardly pleased that now we seemed to have found a way out. I sent Pak Hun immediately to Xiaoshahe to inform the comrades there that we were safe and that it seemed possible that we would make the guerrilla army legitimate as the chief of staff of Commander Yu's unit was giving us his full backing.

After lunch we followed Liu Ben - cao to the Antu county town. Liu had a horse of his own. We told him to ride on the horse, but he replied, "How can I ride on a horse while you are walking? Let's talk while walking together."

He walked with us all the way to the county town. Most of the soldiers were wearing arm - bands with "Bu pa si bu rao min," written on them, meaning that they should not be afraid of death nor should they harm the people. Unlike the nasty attitude of the soldiers, their maxim was very sound and militant. The maxim gave me a ray of hope that my interview with Commander Yu would be a success.

Thanks to the good offices of Mr. Liu, that day we met Commander Yu without difficulty. He received us with courtesy and accorded us hospitality probably for the sake of the dignity of the chief of staff, or probably out of his desire to take us into his unit, for he had made secret inquiries about us and learned that we, having been educated at middle school, were capable of making speeches, writing declarations and handling weapons, in addition to being in the prime of our youth.

As I had guessed. Commander Yu asked us to join his unit. He asked me to work as chief of the propaganda squad under the headquarters. I was extremely embarrassed, for my intention was to form our own army and make it legitimate. If I declined, it would surely incur Commander Yu's displeasure and place Liu Ben-cao in an awkward situation.

I thought; things are developing in a strange way, but fortune might smile on me if I

win his confidence. I accepted his offer saying, "Thank you, commander, I will do as you have asked."

Commander Yu was delighted. He ordered his subordinate to write a notice of my appointment immediately. Thus I became chief of the propaganda squad of the headquarters. Hu Jin - min was appointed an assistant staff officer and Chen Han - zhang, a secretary. This was a ridiculous development, and not something we had desired, but it was a step up the ladder we had to climb. To tell the truth, these absurd appointments proved valuable in making the guerrilla army legitimate.

In my mind I cried, "Bravo!" comparing our situation in which we had been confined in the back rooms of others' houses to the present situation in which we had penetrated deep into the heart of Commander Yu's unit.

That evening an unexpected event occurred. The soldiers of the unit had arrested 70 or 80 young Korean men on their way from Yanji to Fuerhe and brought them to the county town. I saw them at a distance with indignation and shock, and then hurried to Mr. Liu and said:

"Here's a pretty state of affairs, sir. Your soldiers have again arrested dozens of Koreans. What sort of pro - Japanese can there be among them? There is no pro - Japanese. We should deal with any cat's paw after an examination, shouldn't we?" He said, "Go and handle the matter. Song Ju. We trust you."

"I can't do it alone, sir. Please come with me. You were a good orator, weren't you? If you make a speech, even a stooge of the Japanese will be moved. We should teach them to fight against the Japanese. What's the good of killing people who are not pro-Japanese?"

"You are good at speaking, so there's no need for me to speak. You go alone."

He flatly refused, waving his arm.

As he said, I had made speeches on many occasions in my school days. Roving around such places as Jilin, Dunhua, Antu, Fusong and Changchun, I had delivered many speeches denouncing the wild scheme of the Japanese imperialists to invade Manchuria and calling for the unity of the Korean and Chinese peoples. Mr. Liu knew this well.

"If I speak in Korean how will the officers of your unit understand what I am saying? They may think that I am conducting propaganda against them."

Again he waved his hand and urged me to go.

"At most you will make communist propaganda. That's all right. I will vouch for you, so please speak without any worry."

He knew that I was associated with the communist party and involved in the communist movement.

"Communist propaganda should be conducted whenever necessary. It isn't bad to conduct it, is it?"

If we had not been on intimate terms with each other, I would not have dared say this to Mr. Liu. If they regarded me as a communist and pro - Japanese and tried to kill me, I could do nothing. But no such thing happened because of our special relationship. He and I had been open with each other since our days at Yuwen Middle School. When I had been attending school in Jilin, he had looked after me.

As I was talking to Liu Ben - cao, Commander Yu entered the office. Looking outside, he remarked that his men seemed to have arrested some communists and, shaking his head, went on to say that he wondered when the communist party had produced so many members in Manchuria.

Then Liu Ben - cao, winking at me, said, "You, the propaganda chief, go out quickly and talk with them. Not all Koreans can be communists and not all communists can be the cat's paws of the Japanese imperialists."

Commander Yu grew angry at his words and yelled, "What? Are the communists not the stooges of the Japanese? They have brought the Japanese to this land to rob us of our land by their revolt."

Commander Yu's prejudice against the Korean people was stronger and blinder than we had expected. His misunderstanding of communism was no less deep - rooted than his prejudice. I decided to make every effort to persuade him. With determination, I dared to ask him:

"Excuse me, sir, but how do you know that communists are bad? Did you learn it from books or did you hear it from others? If not, why do you call them evil?"

"Damn the books! I learned it from what other people told me. Anyone who has a mouth says that communists are bad. That is why I believe they are bad."

I felt aghast at his words, yet relieved, for I thought I would be perfectly able to dispel his misunderstanding, which was not based on personal experience but on hearsay.

"How can you carry out a great undertaking if you believe what other people say blindly apart from your own experience?"

As Chen Han - zhang and Hu Jin - min were communists and his chief of staff was supporting us. Commander Yu was surrounded. Thinking this a golden opportunity, I continued:

"What is the use of killing precious youngsters at will? What about giving them spears, even if not guns right away, and using them as a shock force? In that way we can test them to see if they fight the Japanese bravely. If they fight well, can we expect anything more from them? It is too much to kill them for no reason."

After thinking for a while, he said, "That's right. Go and deal with them."

I went to the arrested young men and secretly circulated a slip of paper among them. The slip said: "As there is no material evidence, never say you are communists; tell them you picked up by chance the handbill reading, 'Appeal to the Anti - Japanese Soldiers' they have found on you." The young men did not know from whom the slip came.

When I appeared they shot angry glances at me. They seemed to suspect that I was a henchman of Commander Yu. Seeing their hostile glances I asked, "Has any of you ever heard the name Kim Song Ju?"

This question dispelled the tension and they began to murmur. Some answered yes and some no.

"I am Kim Song Ju. I am now working as chief of the propaganda squad in Commander Yu's unit. The commander has just given me the order to ask you whether you would like to join his unit and fight with him. Those who are willing to do so, please speak up."

All the young men answered in chorus, "We will!"

I informed Commander Yu of what the young men had said; then I asked him to admit them to his unit and get them to fight the Japanese. He agreed readily with my proposal. In this way the young men's fate and future was decided as we desired, and we were in a better position to achieve an allied front against the Japanese.

When we thus were on the threshold of making our guerrilla army legitimate, a Korean adviser to Commander Yu who was pulling the wires behind the scenes raised a fuss. A veteran nationalist belonging to the group of Kim Jwa Jin, he had been farming in Nanhutou before joining the national salvation army after the September 18 incident. As he was clever and had a wide knowledge, he enjoyed the deep trust of Commander Yu. It was he who had been instigating Commander Yu to persecute the communists. He claimed that admitting those 70 or 80 people without examination was rash, and that there might be pro-Japanese elements among them. Without forestalling him, our activities might be confronted with another great difficulty.

One day I asked Commander Yu casually, "I have heard that there is a Korean in your unit. Why do you hide him from me?"

He wondered why I had not yet met him, and ordered one of his men to bring him to me.

I found the man to be very tall and sturdy. I introduced myself, and then said, "I am glad to see you. As you are old and probably experienced, please help us young novices as much as you can."

He introduced himself to me. He said he had heard that a young Korean man who spoke fluent Chinese had come to the headquarters and was assisting Commander Yu as the chief of the propaganda squad, and that he, as a Korean, had been very glad at the news.

Because he was speaking about the nation, presenting himself as a Korean, I took the opportunity to scold him:

"If so, you should enlist many people who are willing to fight against the Japanese. Why are you killing so many of them? Is it right to kill them because their ideology is different from yours? It is pitiful for Koreans not to be able to live in their homeland and it is all the more pitiful for them to be killed by the national salvation army in Manchuria. You ought to ensure that they unite, irrespective of their ideology, be they communists or nationalists, and fight against the Japanese; what is the good of ostracizing and killing them?"

He said I was right and gave me a meaningful look. Thus the second barrier was removed. Commander Yu smiled as he saw our conversation ending in a friendly atmosphere.

I asked the commander if he would trust me and allow me to be relieved of the command of the propaganda squad by Hu Jin-min and to form and lead a unit of Koreans.

Liu Ben - cao supported me, saying that my proposal was reasonable. Commander Yu asked me how we would obtain weapons for the proposed unit.

I replied, "Never mind the weapons. We will not ask you for them. We will arm the unit by capturing weapons from the enemy."

The commander was extremely satisfied with my answer.

"Then you may form a unit. But what if you turn your guns against us?"

"Don't worry about that, we will never be guilty of such a betrayal. Should we turn our guns against you, your large army will be able to destroy us greenhorns, won't it?"

Waving his hand and laughing boisterously, he asked me if I had taken his joke seriously.

Afraid that he might get angry if I began by asking him for his permission to break away from the national salvation army, I asked him as the commander to name the unit.

Liu Ben - cao who was standing beside us said, "So, call it a special detachment. What about a special detachment of Koreans?"

Commander Yu and I agreed with Liu's suggestion.

The preparations for making the secret guerrilla army legitimate came to a successful conclusion with the birth of the special detachment. We enlisted in this detachment secret guerrillas from Antu and the 70 - 80 young men who had been detained by Commander Yu's unit, making the guerrilla army legitimate.

I left the commander's room, taking the hands of Chen Han - zhang and Hu Jin - min in mine. We shouted "We've won!" "Success!" and we walked round the walled town all that night. Hu offered me a cigarette, saying that it would be a good experience to get drunk on alcohol or on cigarette smoke if there was no alcohol on that happy day. I put a cigarette between my lips for the first time in my life and inhaled the smoke but, choking, I coughed for a good while. We all laughed. Hu even said, jokingly, "How can you become the commander of the guerrilla army when you cannot even inhale cigarette smoke?"

I returned to Xiaoshahe, and when I told them about the success of the negotiations, the comrades, who had been staying in a back room, carried me on their shoulders, crowding out of the room. The three cheers they raised reverberated throughout the village.

Kim Il Ryong, a celebrated singer, sang Arirang. It was strange to see him, a steel-like man, singing such a sorrowful song on that festive day when he should have sung a merry, lively waltz or a vigorous march.

Kim Chol (alias Kim Chol Hui) asked him, shaking him by the arm, "Brother Il Ryong, why are you singing such a song on this happy day?"

"I don't know. Arirang just came out of my mouth. Yet, we have passed through many crises, haven't we?"

Kim Il Ryong finished singing and glanced at Kim Chol, with tears in his eyes.

What he said made me muse over the trials we had overcome to greet that day. Kim Il Ryong himself was the epitome of all these trials. He had lived through the nationalist movement as an Independence Army soldier, and also through the communist movement. He had lived in Korea, Manchuria and in the Maritime Province of Siberia. His very life was a continuation of suffering, lamentation and tears.

Arirang was a musical interpretation of his life. At a historic juncture when he could laugh off all his sorrows and jump from setback to offensive, he sang the song to sum up his tortuous past and announce a fresh start in a jubilant mood.

If we had not met Liu Ben - cao on our way, what would have happened to us and to the destiny of the guerrilla army? With this thought I express my silent gratitude to him, who has now passed away.

Liu Ben - cao was happier than anyone else at the success of our negotiations with Commander Yu. When I left the town, he followed me a long way from the military camp and said in excitement that now we were friends, friendly forces, we should destroy the Japanese imperialist aggressors together. When I heard of his death, I mourned, remembering the eventful days at Yuwen Middle School and in the walled town of Antu where we had held the negotiations.

Thanks to the successful negotiations with Commander Yu we were able to make our guerrilla army legitimate and have an ally in the war of resistance against the Japanese imperialists. The success also gave us the belief that in the great, patriotic cause we would be able to form a united front with the nationalists of another country who had a different ideology and different ideals.

This belief, I think, has had a great influence on my political career of more than half a century since then. Whenever I encountered officials who were prejudiced or hesitant in dealing with the matter of winning over the nationalists with a different ideology and different ideals and people with chequered records from the propertied classes, I would tell them about the experience I had gained in the negotiations with Commander Yu and persuaded them to be magnanimous.

Back in Xiaoshahe I sent detailed information of our negotiations with Commander Yu and the resultant formation of the special detachment of Koreans to Ri Kwang who had been struggling with the problem of working with the national salvation army unit in the Wangqing area, and gave him the assignment of forming without delay another special detachment in Wangqing, in view of our experience in Antu.

Ri Kwang had been working underground until then. I sent one of my companies to him so that he could form a special detachment there and emerge from underground to conduct legitimate operations.

The special detachments were formed of Koreans. Of Korean units only my unit and Ri Kwang's unit conducted legitimate activities in relation with the national salvation army.

The naming of the special detachment at that time was, so to speak, a tactical measure to ensure the legitimate activities of our guerrilla army, improve our relations with the Chinese nationalist units and form an anti - Japanese allied front with them. After forming the special detachment we pushed ahead with preparations for

expanding and reorganizing it into the Anti - Japanese People's Guerrilla Army as soon as possible.

The organizational structure was established after a wide - ranging discussion. Some comrades were very apprehensive of the small number of people of working-class origin in the guerrilla army. An investigation into those 100 men applying to join showed that most of them were students or peasants. Alarmed at this fact, some of my comrades said that if the army was composed mainly of such people, it would mean violating Marxist - Leninist principles for forming a revolutionary army, and that it might be a factor leading to the degeneration of the revolutionary army.

I explained to them that, although the general principle of Marxist - Leninist military science regarded the industrial working class as the main component of a revolutionary army, there was no need to apply this principle mechanically. Although the industrial working class was relatively small in our country, with peasants accounting for the overwhelming majority of the population, I said, we could not postpone the formation of the guerrilla army until the number of workers had increased. I told them that the peasants and students in our country had as high a revolutionary spirit and as strong a national spirit as the working class, that it would be good if people from different backgrounds fought with the ideology of the working class, and that the preponderance of peasants and students in the revolutionary army would not cause the army to degenerate.

In establishing a command system we did not regard the existing formula as absolute. We defined the organizational structure in such a way as to increase the combat strength to the maximum and to keep the number of commanding officers to the minimum to suit the characteristics of guerrilla warfare. In short, we made the command system as simple as possible. We did not maintain a supply department or a supply officer. We ensured that everyone was able to cook, launder, fight and, if necessary, conduct political activities.

How much useful information we would have received if we had such a book as On War by Carl von Clausewitz at that time! In those days we had no more than the basic military knowledge that the triangular system of military organization had been created by Napoleon. We knew of Clausewitz only by name. I obtained his work On War for the first time during the Second World War. His principle that the command system should be simplified so as to increase combat strength sounded reasonable to me.

The Anti - Japanese People's Guerrilla Army was formed with the company as the basic combat unit. I was elected commander and concurrently political commissar.

Uniforms for the army were made from cloth dyed green in water and boiled oak-tree bark. A five - pointed piece of red cloth inscribed with the company number was worn on the left breast of the tunic. We were to wear caps with a red star insignia and white leggings. Our hearts swelled as we prepared the design of the uniform, the finishing touch to the formation of the guerrilla army.

The members of the Women's Association began to make the uniforms according to our design. My mother, even though she was suffering from her recurrent illness, cut the cloth or handled a sewing machine with all her heart with the other members of the Women's Association.

In the second half of April 1932, we held a meeting to finalize the preparations for the formation of the Anti - Japanese People's Guerrilla Army in Antu. The meeting discussed the date and place of the inauguration of the guerrilla army along with the final screening of the applicants, defined the area of its immediate activities and adopted general measures related with the activities of the guerrilla army.

After the meeting the recruits assembled at Liujiafenfang (Polchatun), at the entrance to Sandaobaihe and then proceeded to Xiaoshahe. The recruits numbered more than 100; those whose names I still remember are Cha Kwang Su, Pak Hun, Kim Il Ryong (from Xiaoshahe), Jo Tok Hwa (from Xiaoshahe), "pockmark" (a nickname, from Xiaoshahe), Jo Myong Hwa (from Xiaoshahe), Ri Myong Su (from Xiaoshahe), Kim Chol (alias Kim Chol Hui, from Xinglongcun), Kim Pong Gu (from Xinglongcun), Ri Yong Bae (from Xinglongcun), a Kwak (from Xinglongcun), Ri Pong Gu (from Sanrenfang), Pang In Hyon (from Sanrenfang), Kim Jong Hwan, Ri Hak Yong (from Korea), Kim Tong Jin (from Korea), Pak Myong Son (from Yanji), An Thae born (from Yanji) and Han Chang Hun (from south Manchuria).

On the morning of April 25, 1932, we held the founding ceremony of the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army on the tableland at Tuqidian. The guerrillas, dressed in their new uniforms and with their guns on their shoulders, lined up in unit order in the clearing on the tableland surrounded by larch trees, and the people from Xiaoshahe and Xinglongcun were buzzing, as they stood in a group at one edge of the clearing.

When looking at the fresh, sturdy soldiers, my mind was flooded with surging memories. How many miles our comrades had walked, how many meetings they had held, how many speeches they had delivered, how many rugged mountains they had trekked, and how many comrades had laid down their lives in the course of forming this armed force! The Anti - Japanese People's Guerrilla Army was a priceless creation of our revolution, born of superhuman efforts, a bloody struggle and sacrifice.

Feeling an irresistible urge to summon all the comrades and people who had sacrificed themselves for this day to this tableland at Tuqidian, I made a speech, with strong emotion bursting out of my heart.

As I proclaimed the founding of the Anti - Japanese People's Guerrilla Army, the soldiers cheered at the top of their voices and the people applauded them enthusiastically.

On May Day, the militant holiday of the working class of the whole world, the AJPGA entered the county town of Antu with the red flag flying in the van and

marched in parade, while blowing trumpets and beating drums. Kim Il Ryong, who had been appointed an officer of the guerrilla army, led the chorus of the march that day. Not only the citizens but also the officers and men of the Chinese anti-Japanese nationalist army units crowded out to the streets and extended a welcome to us with their thumbs up, applauding us to congratulate us.

When we returned to Tuqidian after the parade, Cha Kwang Su and Kim Il Ryong hurried to my house and fetched my bed - ridden mother. Her face did not look well, with wrinkles between her eye - brows and with grey hairs on her head; but her eyes were smiling a quiet smile. She walked to Ri Yong Bae and stroked his rifle, cartridge belt and five-pointed star. Then she proceeded to Kim Chol, Jo Tok Hwa, Kim Il Ryong, Pang In Hyon and Cha Kwang Su, stroking this or that rifle and patting one man's shoulder, and then another's. Before long, her eyes were moist. She said:

"I am proud of you. Now we have our own army! That's what we needed. You must destroy the Japanese and win back the country without fail."

Her voice was thick. Forgetting her devotion to us, she was apparently thinking of the painstaking efforts of my father and other patriotic fighters who had passed away, praying for the liberation of the motherland.

Later guerrilla units were formed in Yanji, Wangqing, Hunchun, Belong and other parts of east Manchuria. Guerrilla units were also formed in north and south Manchuria by such staunch Korean communists as Kim Chaek, Choe Yong Gon, Ri Hong Gwang and Ri Tong Gwang, and began to fight the enemy.

The spring of 1932 advanced with the rumbling of the gunfire of the great war against the Japanese imperialists.

TO BE CONTINUED

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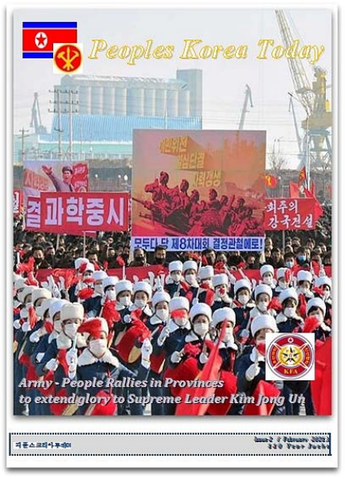

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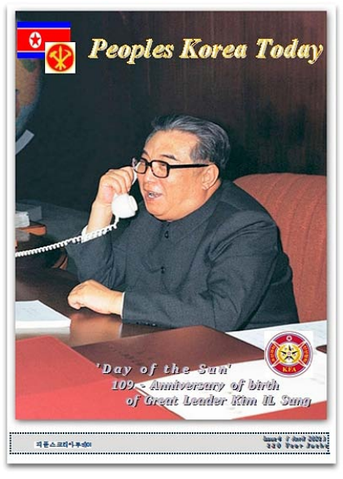

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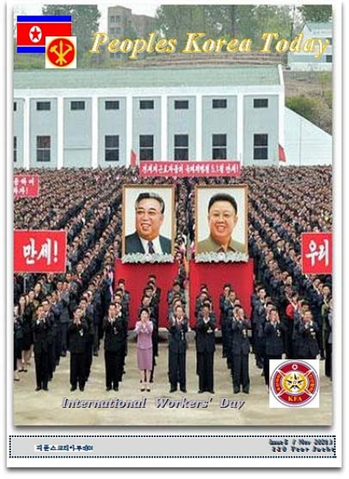

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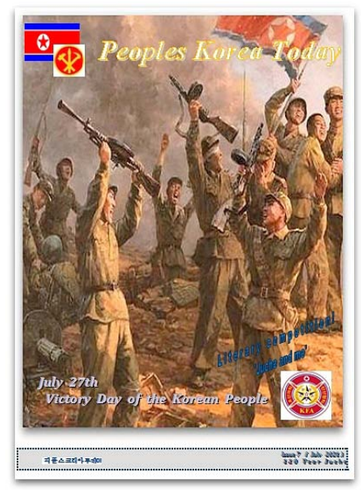

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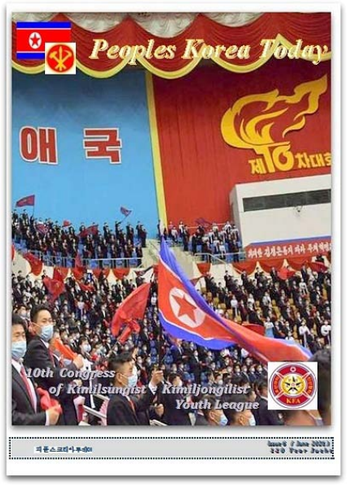

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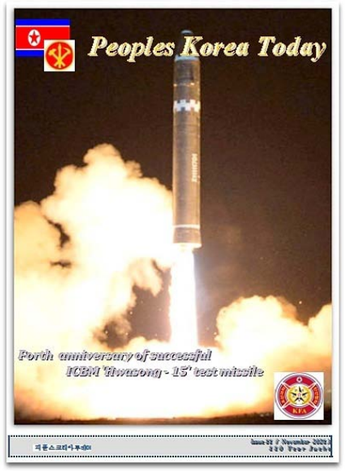

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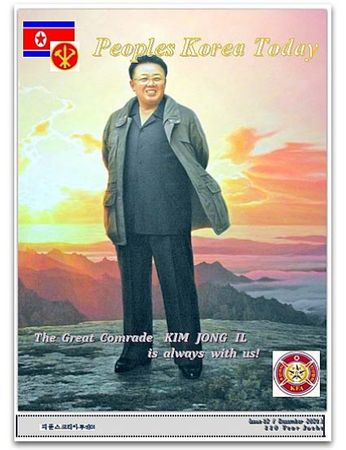

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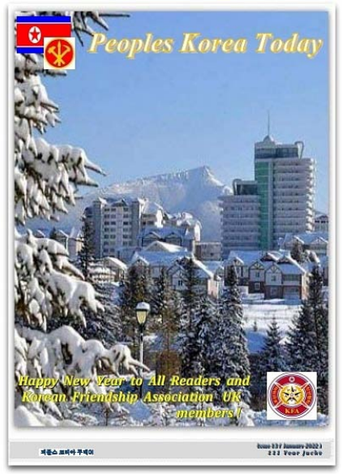

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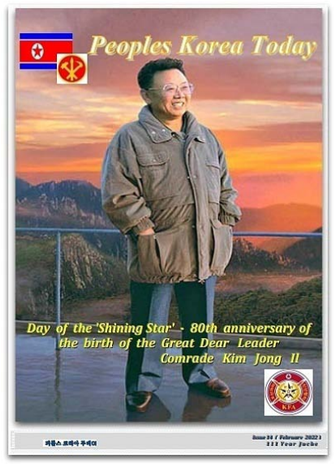

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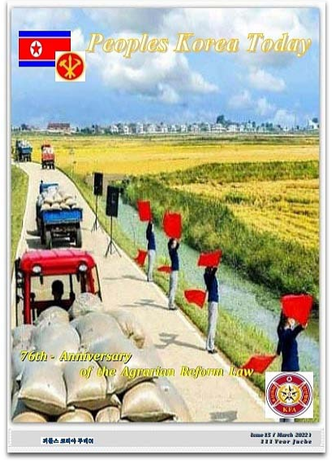

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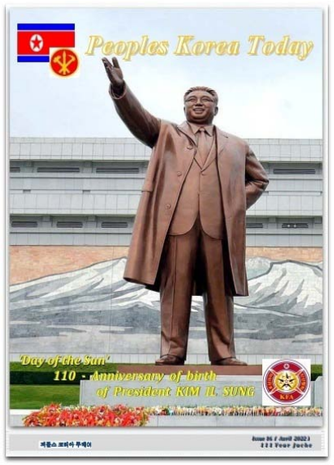

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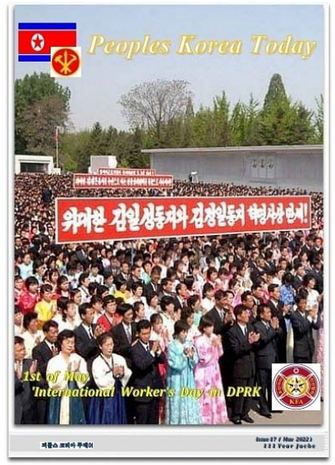

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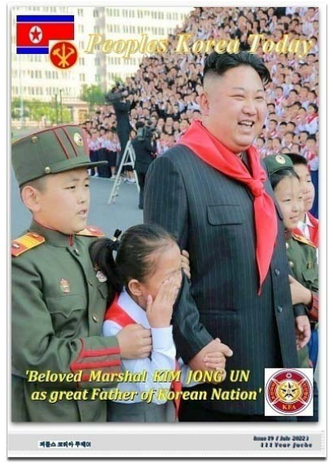

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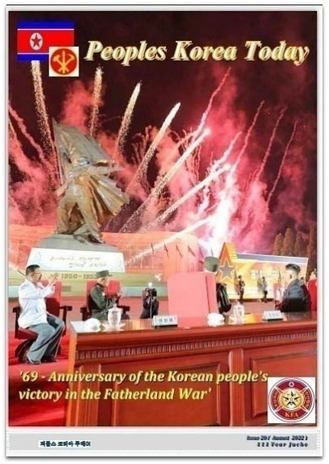

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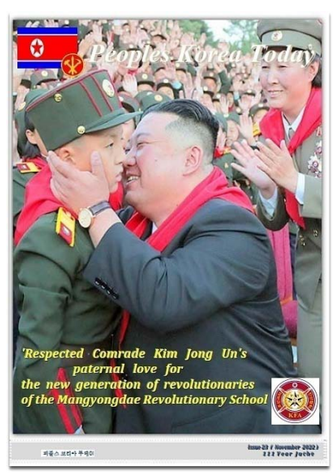

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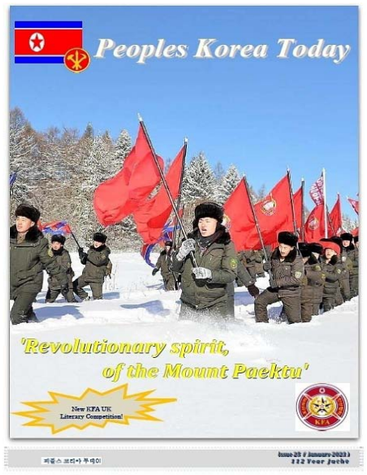

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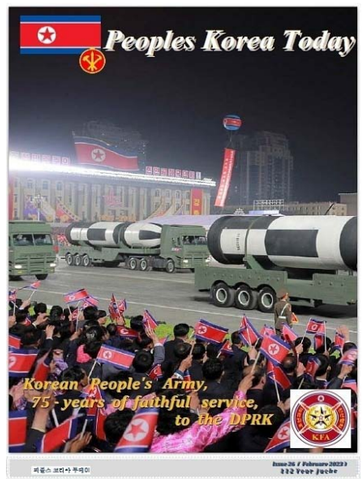

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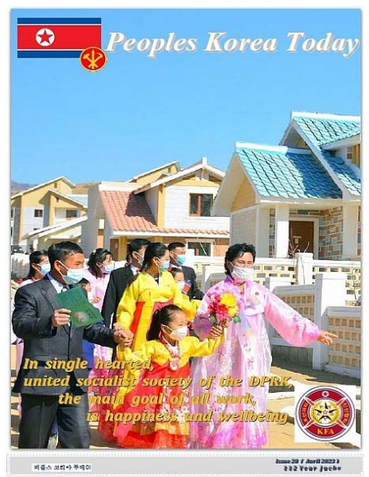

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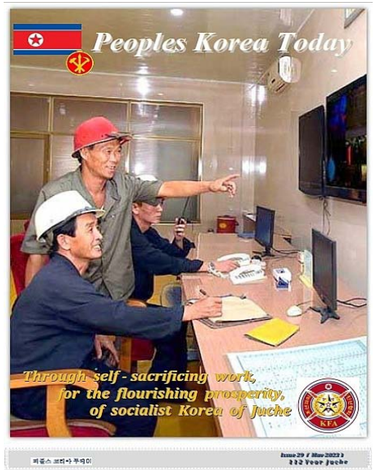

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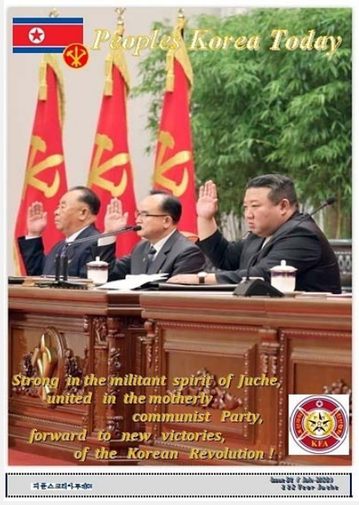

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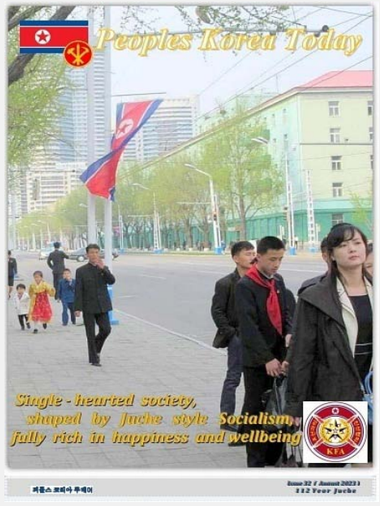

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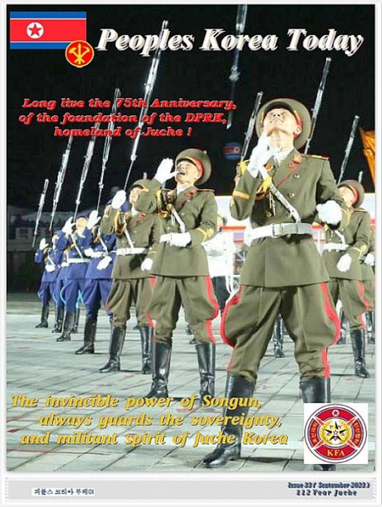

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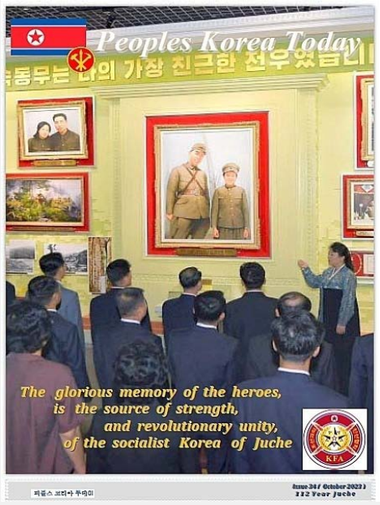

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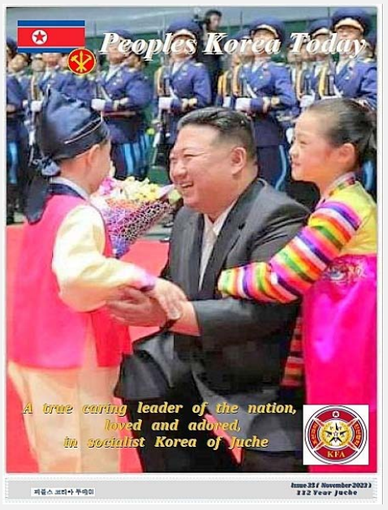

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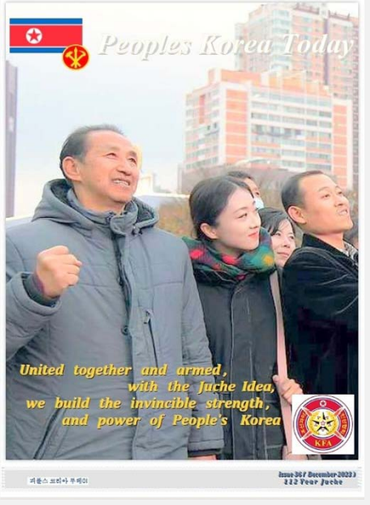

Issue 36 (December 2023)

POEM OF THE MONTH

Golden era of socialism

In an era where imperialists cast shadows of war,
and nature's disasters roar with all their uproar,
Korean people rise, clenching their fists tight,
Their bravery scares away the stormy night.

With arms raised high and chests puffed out,
they march to battle, with no atom of doubt.
Taking their hammer, sickle, and brush in hand,
they build a new era, write an epic so grand.

In an era where idleness is but a myth,
Skyscrapers ascend as the people uplift.
Fields get covered with harvests, abundant and bright,
And the laughter of the people is the only sound in sight.

Joy and fighting spirit fill the country whole,
no fear, but confidence, in the faces of them all.
For in the vast sky, where the future's in sight,
the sun casts a warm, golden light so bright.

This sun, that does not know when to descend,
casts a golden design, on which people depend.
'Kim Jong Un Era', they call it with a cheer,
The golden era of socialism is here!

Author: Matheus Knupp

LIST OF KEYNOTE DPRK ANNIVERSARIES DURING THE YEAR

January

8th of January
Marshal KIM JONG UN's birthday

February

8th of February
Foundation of Korean People's Army as a regular and standing revolutionary armed force

16th of February
Day of the 'Shining Star' Anniversary of the Birth of the Great Leader Comrade KIM JONG IL

March

5th of March
Anniversary of Agrarian Reform Law

8th of March
International women's Day

17th of December
Anniversary of the passing away of the Great Leader Comrade KIM JONG IL

April

25th of April
'Day of the Sun' anniversary of the birth of the Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG
Foundation of the KPA as the Korean Revolutionary Army

27th of April
Anniversary of Panmunjom Inter - Korean Summit

May

1st of May
'International Worker's Day'

June

25th of June
Anniversary of the provocation of the Fatherland Liberation War by the US imperialists

24th of December
Anniversary of the Birth of Madame KIM JONG SUK
Anniversary of the appointment of the Great Leader Comrade KIM JONG IL as a Korean People's Army Supreme Commander

July

8th of July
Anniversary of the passing away of the Great Leader KIM IL SUNG

17th of July
Anniversary of the award of the title of Marshal to Respected Comrade KIM JONG UN

27th of July
Anniversary of victory in 'Fatherland Liberation War'

August

15th of August
'Day of Songun'
(start of the Songun revolutionary leadership of the Great Leader Comrade KIM JONG IL)

September

9th of September
Foundation of the Republic Day

22nd of September
Anniversary of the passing away of the anti - Japanese Heroine and Mother of Korea, Madame KIM JONG SUK

October

10th of October
Party Foundation Day

17th of October
Anniversary of foundation of 'Down with Imperialism Union'

November

13th of November
Not a DPRK anniversary but anniversary of the foundation of the Korean Friendship Association

29th of November
Anniversary of 'Hwasong - 15' test fire

December

30rd of December
Anniversary of the appointment of Marshal KIM JONG UN as a Korean People's Army Supreme Commander